

Scouts honor
U.S. Supreme Court to hear
Boy Scouts of America v. Dale.
page 17

CDC's Helene Gayle speaks
Gay AIDS cases among minorities
surpass those among whites.
page 14



Dream boy with guitar
Songwriter Garrin Benfield
is 'Living a Dream.'
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 3 • 20 January 2000

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Yaki: Did gay rights cause helicopter crash?

by Terry Beswick

As over 700 peace officers from around the state and nation arrived at St. Mary's Cathedral Tuesday, January 18 for a morning memorial service for two San Francisco Police Department officers tragically killed in a helicopter crash last week, Supervisor Michael Yaki used the backdrop to suggest that the city's landmark equal benefits ordinance may be partially to blame for the officers' deaths.



Michael Yaki

Inspector Kirk Brookbush, 49, and Officer James Dougherty, 56, were killed on the evening of January 11 as they returned from a routine maintenance trip at the Arrow Falcon Company, a contractor in Porterville, Stanislaus County. Their helicopter crashed in a field.

Appearing on KTVU's local news show *Mornings on 2*, Yaki suggested that the copter may have crashed in part because the police department could find no local maintenance companies that offered domestic partner benefits, and therefore the police officers had to take it to Porterville for servicing, over 200 miles away.

"The implication is that if they didn't have to go there for maintenance, maybe the copter wouldn't have had to crash," said Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, who attended Tuesday's memorial service. Though he did not see the KTVU interview with Yaki, Ammiano said several constituents later called to tell him about his fellow supervisor's on-air comments.

"I thought that was really, really rude, and playing to a right-wing thing," Ammiano said.

"I think what we have here is pure and simple homophobia, in order to cater to the homophobia on the [city's] west side that was engendered in the recent mayor's race," agreed Jeff Sheehy of Equal Benefits Advocates, a local group that worked for the law's passage, and has fought for its enforcement.

While Yaki emphasized in the television interview that he is a "strong supporter" of the 1996 ordinance, which requires companies that contract with the city to offer their employees' domestic partners the same

page 17 ►

Supervisors okay queer youth shelter in Noe Valley

by Katie Szymanski

Ten homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender young people in San Francisco will have a place to stay this winter, thanks to a 9-2 vote by the Board of Supervisors Tuesday, January 18 that allocated city funding for an emergency youth shelter in Noe Valley. The shelter will open next month at Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, and remain open through April. The city will set aside \$54,000 for the three-month period to provide counseling, security, and other services.

The youth shelter narrowly survived a bitter neighborhood debate that erupted as soon as the Reverend Jim Mitulski first proposed the project last November. Mitulski—who offered up his church as an emergency, short-term solution when plans for a queer youth shelter in the Castro dissolved—was accused by Noe Valley residents of creating "a done deal" and "closed process" whereby their input was disregarded during discussions about the shelter.

Two supervisors—Leland Yee and Amos Brown—felt that the neighborhood opposi-

page 19 ►



Supervisor Leslie Katz spoke in favor of the temporary homeless shelter for gay youth in Noe Valley, as Supervisor Barbara Kaufman looks on. The board voted Monday to approve funding for the Golden Gate-MCC project.

Judy Shepard to speak at Jan. 27 No on Knight benefit

by Terry Beswick

Much has been said about the potential legal impact of the Knight initiative on equal rights for gays and lesbians in California.

If more than half of California voters support the Knight initiative (Proposition 22) when they go to the polls on March 7, gay Californians who may someday legally marry in other states may forever be denied the benefits of marriage. Even worse, just as they have done in other states that have enacted similar laws, anti-gay groups are expected to use a victory as a legal basis to challenge existing protections for same-sex families, such as domestic partner benefits, hospital visitation privileges, and adoption.

But win or lose, as the debate over the Knight initiative escalates amidst the rhetoric of the state's presidential primary, opponents of the statewide ballot measure also fear that anti-gay rhetoric—and its attendant violence—could also increase in California.

"Anti-gay violence does not happen in a vacuum," Judy Shepard, whose young son Matthew was slain in a vicious hate crime in Wyoming in 1998, recently said in a statement. "It happens in a climate of fear, ignorance, and intolerance—the very climate the Knight initiative fosters."

As part of a tour of the state to get this point across, and to help defeat the Knight initiative, Mrs. Shepard will visit San Francisco Thursday, January 27, where she will be

the featured speaker at "Journey to a Hate Free Millennium," a badly needed benefit for the No on Knight campaign.

The event at the Regency Building at 1300 Van Ness Avenue, which begins with cocktails and a buffet at 5:30 p.m., will feature a 7:15 screening of a new documentary produced by New Light Media.

The murder of Matthew Shepard is one of three recent hate crimes explored in *Journey to a Hate Free Millennium*, the film di-

rected by Brent Scarpo and Martin Bedogne.

"It's one of our major fundraisers," said Tracey Conaty, spokeswoman for the No on Knight campaign. "The benefit is about bringing in dollars, but it's also about educating voters about the connection between anti-gay ballot measures and anti-gay discrimination and hate crimes."

Although the No on Knight campaign raised about \$200,000 more than their op-

page 18 ►



Judy Shepard spoke against anti-gay violence at last year's Stonewall 30 event in Oakland. She'll be in San Francisco January 27.

INSIDE

ACT UP	20
BAR Talk	46
Classifieds	23
Dykeotomy	10
Mailstrom	7
Mister Marcus	40
Obituaries	21
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out & About	38
Out There	30
Past Out	11
Personals	48
Sports Complex	22

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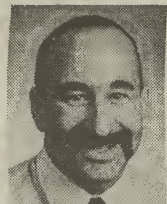


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Dick Pabich tribute draws hundreds

by Cynthia Laird

Friends, family, and civic leaders all paid tribute January 14 to Dick Pabich, a long-time political strategist who paved the way for gay politics in San Francisco. Pabich died New Year's Day of AIDS-related complications. He was 44.

Assemblywoman Carole Migden, a longtime friend, told the several hundred people assembled at San Francisco's First Unitarian Church that she will always ask herself, "What would Dick think? In that way I shall carry him with me forever."

Pabich was well-known in San Francisco gay politics for 20 years; he helped run Harvey Milk's successful campaign for supervisor and followed Milk to City Hall as his aide.

"He knew in politics it was better to be feared than to be loved," said Migden, chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. "Dick's legacy is the political movement. His life and our movement should be celebrated today."

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-California), recalled how Pabich worked with her when she ran for Congress. "He taught me - with great patience - politics in San Francisco, including gay politics. One of the first debates I had for Congress was in one of the rooms at this church and Dick was with me."



U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer was one of several people who paid tribute to the late Dick Pabich.

"Everyday I'm in the Senate I am amazed I got there; one of the reasons I got there is the gay and lesbian community. Every campaign he worked on was the right place to be," said Boxer.

Pabich worked against the anti-gay statewide ballot initiatives in the 1980s and most recently lobbied Migden to sponsor legislation enabling people living with AIDS to return to work without losing their benefits.

The law, signed by Governor Gray Davis last fall, took effect on the day Pabich died.

Mayor Willie Brown praised Pabich as one of the organizers behind his January 1998 AIDS summit. At the event, Brown named Pabich his "AIDS Czar," a position Pabich held without pay until August 1998.

"I have lost an advisor, the political world has lost one of its super stars," Brown said. He also touched on Pabich's involvement with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center Project; Pabich had served on the center's board of directors.

Pabich's sister, Suzanne Kinard, and brother, Dan Pabich, recalled growing up with the young activist, who had been organizing events since he was a small boy. Boxer and others referred to Pabich as "Dickie," something his sister said they couldn't do while growing up in Wisconsin. "We couldn't call him 'Dickie' like Senator Boxer did, he'd charge us a nickel," Kinard said to laughter from the audience.

Longtime friend Jim Rivaldo pointed out that Pabich moved to San Francisco after breaking up with a boyfriend. "Dick's failed romance changed San Francisco politics," said Rivaldo, who with Pabich started the first gay political consulting firm in the city. "He was a solid rock of confidence. He worked his way to the top ranks of political consulting and Dick was always a gentleman." ▼

Actor to host online chat for No on Knight

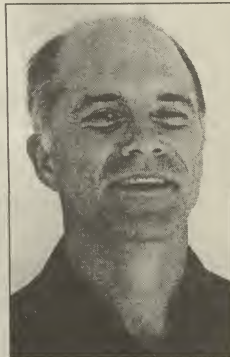
by Terry Beswick

Openly gay actor Dan Butler, who plays "Bulldog" on NBC's hit show *Frasier*, will discuss the anti-gay Knight initiative (Proposition 22) in a live chat on Gay.com this Sunday, January 23.

The online event takes place from 6 to 7 p.m. Butler and his partner, Richard Waterhouse, who also will be part of the online chat, are staunch supporters of the effort to defeat Proposition 22 on the March 7 ballot and have spoken out extensively against the measure.

The Knight initiative, authored by right-wing state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale), seeks to limit marriage in California to those between one man and one woman. Same-sex marriage is not currently legal in the state.

Butler hopes to encourage all



Openly gay actor Dan Butler

his fans in California to get out to the polls on March 7. "I believe the Knight initiative is a great opportunity for Californians to say 'no' to anti-gay discrimination -

we won't stand for innocent sounding, subtly-worded measures whose intent is to hurt, to divide, and to stoke old fears and create new hatred," Butler stated. "As a gay man in a committed relationship, I will vote 'no' on Knight."

The Proposition 22 discussion with Butler and Waterhouse will take place on Gay.com (www.gay.com), the web's largest lesbian and gay affinity portal. The chat is open to the public and all Internet and America Online users can attend.

"As we enter the final weeks of this campaign, voter contact is critical. Not only must all GLBT people get out and vote 'no' on March 7, but everyone in our community must reach out to their family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers and ensure that they too get out and vote 'no,'" said Mike Marshall, No on Knight campaign manager. ▼

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Pot ID cards go for vote

But policy is not a cure for social ills

by Katie Szymanski

Medical marijuana identification cards moved one step closer to becoming a reality last Thursday, January 13, when the San Francisco Board of Supervisors' Public Health and Environment Committee decided to support the measure and send it to the full board for a recommendation for approval.

The board is scheduled to hear the proposal this Monday, January 24, and Supervisor Mark Leno, the legislation's author and chief sponsor, said he expects the measure to pass.

Speakers in favor of the idea said that the voluntary ID cards will help thousands of medical marijuana users avoid unnecessary police harassment, and will also free up police to spend their time on actual criminal matters. If someone is stopped for marijuana possession, for instance, simply producing a valid card that documents a medical need consistent with the voter-approved Proposition 215 could put a stop to further criminal investigation under local law.

But critics say that the cards, by their very nature, pose an inherent problem with regard to race, class,



Wayne Phillips testified in favor of the proposed medical marijuana ID card program, but raised questions about those without access to doctors, such as the homeless.

been absent from the discussions.

"We believe if all people who are sick and dying will be honored by this card, then it is what we want," said Phillips, who noted that quite often past drug charges or criminal records are used by law enforcement to judge whether a medical marijuana claim is "valid."

"We believe if all people who are sick and dying will be honored by this card, then it is what we want."

— Wayne Phillips

and lifestyle, and may very well set up a two-tier system whereby marijuana users with ID cards become a privileged class who are left alone, and those without cards become an increased target for police and legal harassment.

Homeless people, for instance — who have nowhere to smoke except in public — have been continually hounded, arrested, and put through the legal process, according to Wayne Phillips, who spoke at last Thursday's hearing on behalf of "the common person," a voice that had

"Promise us that we will be respected with this card," said Phillips.

But the procedure for obtaining a medical marijuana ID card smacks of privilege itself; a primary care provider must give documentation of the patient's need in order for the Department of Public Health to issue a card, and a fee must be paid to obtain a card. For low-income people, both of these steps may involve much more difficulty than fulfilling simple prerequisites.

"It is unconstitutional to have

to pay for the right not to be harassed," Michael Bellefontaine of ACT UP/San Francisco said of the policy. Indeed the fee may mean that those who can afford to will be able to buy their way out of police harassment, while those without disposable incomes will have to take their chances.

Yet even more of an obstacle is the type and quality of healthcare available to people without insurance and/or a regular primary care physician. As it stands, many of the city's clinics geared toward low-income patients are hesitant to discuss their medical marijuana procedures, in part because some physicians dependent on federal money may be more fearful of prosecution for their role in providing what is still an illegal drug in the nation's eyes.

Supporters of the system say that the cards, once in place, will make it easier for these reluctant physicians to document a medical need for marijuana, because the cards go through the DPH.

"I think the cards mean there will be more of a likelihood for county facilities to document a medical need, because DPH will be working with them," said

page 23 ►

Berkeley City Council hears arguments for LGBT police liaison on Tuesday

by Katie Szymanski

Using a recent Bay Area Reporter story about the Oakland Police Department's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender liaison, and picking up speed for his own fight, Berkeley City Councilman Kriss Worthington brought to his city a proposal to establish a LGBT liaison for Berkeley's police force.

The proposal was pulled on Tuesday, January 18, by some councilmembers who thought that Berkeley "didn't have a problem" with its police force, but public comment to the contrary forced the proposal's rescheduling; it will come up again before the council this Tuesday, January 25.

Worthington said the extra week will give him time to round up people who have had difficulty addressing anti-gay crime with Berkeley's police.

"I didn't bring a lot of people,



Kriss Worthington

because I thought everybody would be in favor of it," Worthington told the B.A.R. "So having the extra week is actually a good thing."

Worthington said he knows for a fact that Berkeley is not immune

to anti-gay bias in its police force.

"I have straight people who were fag-bashed calling me because the police won't do anything," said Worthington. "I have gay people and transgenders saying they are harassed, that they have no support from within the department."

Tuesday's city council meeting will include testimony from people who have had negative as well as positive experiences with the police; both sides often see the benefits of having an LGBT liaison to keep things running smoothly. Anyone who has had involvement with the Berkeley police concerning a gay incident is welcome to comment; the meeting begins at 7 p.m. and is held at 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, on the second floor. ▼

For more information, call Worthington at (510) 644-4822.

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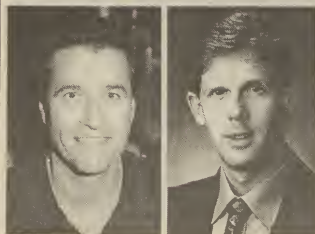
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Keeping MLK's dream alive



Joe Philomeno/Calend

Young people from around the Bay Area used January 17, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, to fight Proposition 21 on the March 7 ballot. The so-called Gang Violence and Juvenile Crime Prevention Act of 1998 includes most of former Governor Pete Wilson's failed juvenile crime legislative proposals. About 8,000 people participated in San Francisco's tribute to King, which included a march along Market Street to a rally at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium.

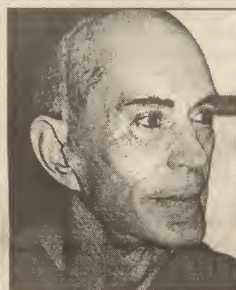
Castro shelter shelved

by Terry Beswick

A proposed facility to provide temporary shelter, job training, and counseling to up to 16 homeless gay and lesbian young adults is not welcome in the Castro, a 21-member neighborhood advisory group told San Francisco officials last Thursday, January 13.

Until the city grants neighbors of the proposed facility at 2500 Market Street the authority to shut it down through a new panel that would be formed to oversee it, the ad hoc Castro Community Advisory Committee voted last week to rescind its November 29 recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, in which the neighbors provided a detailed outline of a scaled-down program for the site they could support.

Disappointed that the city had failed to come up with a "creative alternative" to their proposed oversight board which would work "in partnership" with the city, the CAC voted to retract its



Marc Geiler

2500 Market owner Tor Hansen

previous recommendations on a 14-6 vote, with one abstention.

Immediately after the CAC had presented its previous recommendations to Supervisor Mark Leno, who spearheaded the project, the recommendations became moot when Tor Hansen, the new owner of the former gym—who initially had offered his spacious new home to the city for free—reneged on a subsequent offer to lease the building to the

city for a youth shelter for up to two years at \$2 per square foot.

Through his attorney, the requested rent was upped to \$4 per square foot.

But Hansen renewed his \$2 offer last month, and came to Thursday's meeting to apologize for his previous changes of heart, saying he had not understood the months of hard work that his new neighbors had put into crafting a proposal that would be acceptable to all parties.

"I can assure you that what has been called the yo-yo effect has ended," Hansen told the group, adding that he would be willing to keep his two-year offer open for up to a year longer. ▼

JCC hosts series on gay Jews

by Terry Beswick

As part of a series on issues facing lesbian and gay Jews from a Judaic perspective, the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco will present "Putting a Face on Lesbian and Gay Families" this Wednesday, January 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Jewish communal worker Shelly Eisenman will discuss "bringing Jewish values to gay and lesbian parenting and family situations." The presentation will focus on different parenting options, including biological, adoption, gay/lesbian co-parenting, and single parents.

On the following Wednesday, February 2, also from 7 to 8:30 p.m., the Center will present "Issues of Discrimination Facing Gay and Lesbian Jews." San Francisco Supervisors Mark Leno and Leslie Katz will focus on the anti-gay Knight initiative, and the Jewish community's response to it.

Tickets for each forum are \$8 for JCC members, and \$10 for the general public. Tickets for center members 60 and over are \$4, and \$5 for the general public.

For more information, contact Yassi Offenber (at 415) 292-1237. ▼

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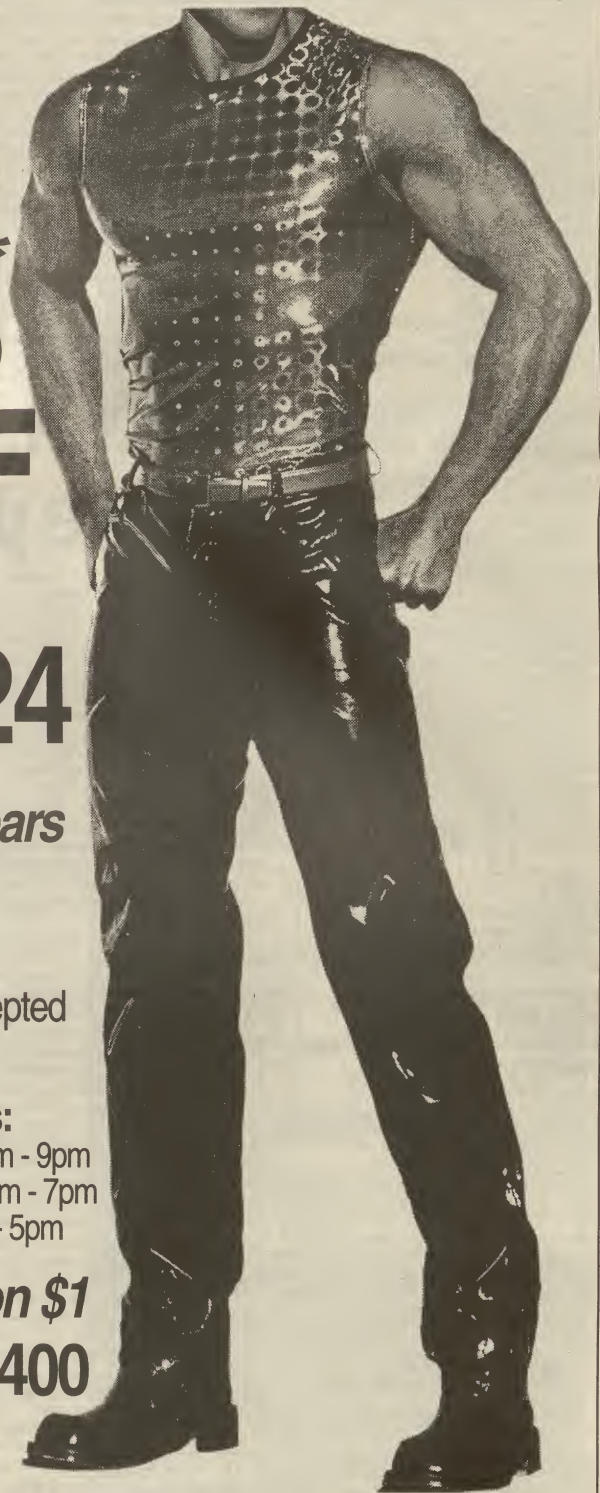
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Volume 30, Number 3
20 January 2000

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OPEN FORUM

Fight Knight now

The No on Knight campaign needs help now.

The fight for gay rights is heating up in California with just over six weeks until the crucial March 7 election. Proposition 22, the so-called Knight initiative, is on the ballot and deserves a resounding "No" vote. The 14-word measure, if approved, would limit marriage in the state to unions between a man and a woman.

While the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community is united against Proposition 22 and it looks likely to be defeated in San Francisco, the real battle must be fought throughout California, where voters must be educated against this hateful ballot measure.

Much has been written about the Knight initiative but the money to defeat it is slowly coming in to No on Knight's coffers. Current financial records show the campaign against Proposition 22 with about \$2.1 million and campaign officials have stated that at least \$5 million is needed. Why? To air television commercials closer to the election is one reason. Statewide campaigns in California are tremendously expensive and the pro-Knight camp has raised twice as much money as the anti-Knight side. It's likely that right-wing homophobes and the Catholic and Mormon churches, which are all heavily financing the Knight initiative, will soon air their own television and radio ads aimed at promoting divisiveness among California voters.

The LGBT community needs to come together and raise money so that No on Knight can have a shot at equalizing the playing field by running ads soon.

Recent polls show support for Proposition 22 is slipping. Internal polling from the No on Knight campaign shows that 85 percent of Californians know someone who is gay or lesbian. It's up to us to talk to those people, and explain why they all need to vote "No" on Knight.

Think what life in California would be like if the anti-gay Briggs initiative had passed years ago. Gay teachers would have been banned from their profession, the climate of hate would undoubtedly be stronger than it is today. We can't sit by and allow that climate of intolerance to increase with the passage of Proposition 22.

The repercussions to LGBT youth grappling with their sexual orientation are serious, and potentially life-threatening if the Knight initiative passes. Legislative gains the community just made last year could be wiped out, setting back the fight for equal rights.

There are several fundraisers coming up for No on Knight – including one in San

Francisco January 27 – that local residents can support and we urge you to do so. Save the money you were going to spend on a Saturday night socializing and donate it to

No on Knight. Any amount you can give will help.

If you can't give of your money, give of your time, as No on Knight needs hundreds of volunteers to canvass neighborhoods and phone likely voters to elicit their support on March 7. Getting out the vote is critical if we are to have a chance to defeat this ugly measure.

If you are not registered to vote, get a registration card, fill it out, and send it in by February 7.

We can defeat the Knight initiative. It's within our power to determine what the headlines will read on March 8. ▼



Editorial



Are we prepared?

by Supervisor Mark Leno

Disaster preparedness is a hip term used to alert citizens to the real need to be forthright with regards to natural disasters – a week's supply of water, canned food, and cash. Of course, we can only prepare for, not prevent, a natural disaster.

What about a political disaster? Are we as a queer community prepared to see the Knight initiative – Proposition 22 on the March 7 ballot – pass? Are we prepared to see the real and substantial gains that our community has garnered over the past three decades fundamentally challenged? The biggest and boldest bullies in the state are betting that we have become complacent and that a majority of the state's voters won't even notice.

Are we prepared to prevent this political disaster?

State Senator Pete Knight, the author of Proposition 22, the Limit On Marriage initiative, is a longtime supporter of extreme right-wing legislation against women, people of color, the LGBT community, and organized labor. He is a man who did not speak to his dying gay brother and does not speak to his living gay son.

Howard Ahmanson, the initiative's single largest donor, also funded past divisive efforts, including Propositions 187, 209, 226, and 227. Ahmanson believes in a literal translation of the Bible and that such a translation should be taught in public schools. He and his friends at the Chaldeon Institute believe that homosexuality is a capital offense.

The Reverend Lou Sheldon and his Traditional Values Coalition along with the Family Research Council, the Christian Coalition, and the leadership of the Mormon and Catholic churches represent the coalition formed to pass Proposition 22.

Are things coming into focus?

We are under assault and the Knight initiative is the assailant.

This is no hyperbole. The Christian Coalition has vowed to overturn three sim-

ple and fair-minded pieces of legislation just signed into law by Governor Gray Davis. Laws that protect lesbians and gay men from discrimination in housing and employment, protect queer high school and college students from harassment and violence on campus, and Assemblywoman Carole Migden's statewide domestic partner registry with its hospital visitation rights provision are all in the firing line of the radical right. There are already signatures being collected to place on the November state ballot a measure that would prohibit any state legislation that includes the words "sexual orientation" or "domestic partners." The Christian Coalition has endorsed this effort and has placed its 700,000-member state list in the hands of its authors.

If the Knight initiative passes are we prepared to mount the necessary and expensive campaign it would take to stop these forces in November 2000?

With the slightest bit of victory, Knight, Ahmanson, and friends will gleefully return to their supporters reveling in their success and promising an even greater demise of all that we collectively hold dear. They would claim that the majority of Californians agree with their "traditional family values" agenda and that the radical homosexual agenda has finally seen its day. We, on the other hand, would be on the defensive, our organizational skills in question and fighting for our very lives.

This is not a pretty picture – but it is a disaster that we can prevent.

The good news is that a strong, statewide No on Knight effort is in place. For the past 10 months, a broad-based coalition has been in the making. We have raised \$2.1 million of the \$5 million estimated necessary to win on March 7. Just last week the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO endorsed us saying, "Proposition 22 is a wedge issue that promotes hate. The labor movement stands for liberty and justice ... and

opposes attempts to divide California." They join a long list of business leaders, chambers of commerce, churches, synagogues, ministers, rabbis, teachers, environmentalists, many ethnic organizations, NOW, the ACLU, the League of Women Voters, the California Democratic Party, the California Republican League, People for the American Way, Planned Parenthood, chapters of the NAACP, Vice President Al Gore, former Senator Bill Bradley, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, Representatives Nancy Pelosi and Tom Campbell, and hundreds of other elected and community leaders.

There are many ways that we can all ensure our victory over this evil. Call Esperanza Macias at (415) 227-1020 and let her

know that you would like to volunteer with our field operation. We still need hundreds of people

to help with phone-banking, street-tabling, precinct-walking, and voter outreach. Call Derek Jentzsch at the same phone number to organize a house party. We have a powerful video and all the printed matter you will need to engage your friends and neighbors. Call Tom Baumgartner to find out about our gala fundraiser on Thursday, January 27 at the Regency Building. The evening will premier a screening of the documentary *Journey to a Hate Free Millennium* with special guest Judy Shepard. Tickets start at \$50. Make sure everyone you know is registered to vote by February 7. Write a check of any size and have five friends do the same. Check out our website at NoOnKnight.org and have 10 friends do the same.

We have cut Knight's lead in the polls from 18 points to 9 points with the undecideds moving in our direction. Proposition 22 can be defeated – but only with your help. There is still so much to be done and only seven weeks in which to do it.

Please help. Together we can prevent a huge disaster. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Let's move past mayoral election

They often say in politics that when you're successful at what you do, you frequently become a target by those less successful wishing to supplant you. Due to the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club's long track record of accomplishments, we have recently been assailed by a campaign of vitriol and misinformation. Enough is enough.

Last week's B.A.R. Guest Opinion by year-and-a-half San Francisco resident Jerry Threet offered a simplistic analysis of a complex political dynamic. His scapegoating of our 30-year-old club – and inaccurate ramblings regarding a political climate he knows next to nothing about – were offensive. Since Threet maligned the integrity of our club and cast aspersions on our methods, we must stand up for our members and for Alice's proud history. The first lesbian and gay Democratic club in the nation, Alice is one of the oldest and largest LGBT organizations in San Francisco.

Threet assails our organization as assimilationist and claims "Toklas Club leaders support machine candidates against LGBT candidates who would build alliances with folks left out of the political process." This is simply untrue. Alice's history of supporting and electing gay and lesbian candidates as supervisors and school board members – not to mention the state Assembly, judgeships and countless other positions – is unsurpassed in the nation. Alice's diverse spectrum of leadership is active in myriad LGBT community organizations and boards, as well as city commissions.

We were portrayed as political sycophants sucking up to "the machine" in hopes of making it into the "power structure." Machine politics, by definition, does not apply at all to the progressive, community power-sharing dynamic that has evolved in San Francisco. Political machines historically exclude communities from power and representation. We are present at every level of political participation and government decision-making in the city.

Last fall, Alice joined forces with Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action in support of Mayor Brown's re-election. We determined that our role in the runoff would be to support and validate the 40 percent or so LGBT voters who are longtime Brown supporters. We produced a first-ever TV commercial featuring gay characters discussing the mayor's race, with follow-up mail and a website. We effectively delivered the message that it was appropriate to determine one's support by examining the issues facing our city and weighing Mayor Brown's decades-long history of standing with our community.

Alice raised the funds necessary to deliver this message from a number of individuals and organizations that, like us, supported Mayor Brown. Threet claims that our finance chair, Robert Barnes, made an obscene amount of money accomplishing this task. Hogwash. Our bylaws state that no member of our executive board may benefit financially from any fundraising done on Alice's behalf, and he did not.

For the record, Robert Barnes has been an active Alice member since the 1970s. A San Francisco native, he began gay community organizing in high school. He organized against the Briggs initiative. He was involved in his father's supervisory campaign as a progressive labor candidate running against Dan White in 1977. Discrediting his involvement in Alice because he is now an effective and visible political consultant is hypocritical. Threet should be aware that numerous political consultants and campaign workers are active in every Democratic club in the city. Alice has a few, the Harvey Milk Club has several others, and this is the reality of the political world. This past election cycle, some of our endorsements ran counter to campaigns managed by Barnes.

Threet then claims Alice and Barnes "stood by ... approvingly" as an attack was leveled on the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Please, we think they are fabulous! We wrote letters of support to the board on their behalf during last year's Easter brouhaha. Once and for all, Alice had nothing to do with this inflammatory tactic.

Threet and Company's distortions and name-calling are an outrage. Supporting different candidates for office, or the use of differing political strategies, is no justification for this divisiveness. Despite Mayor Brown's record of accomplishment, this campaign of demonization and intimidation forced many LGBT Brown supporters to balk at displaying a sign or wearing a button in the Castro for fear of being vandalized, cursed at or spat on by overzealous Ammiano supporters. Should this be the dialogue of democracy in our community?

Finally, Threet states he and other queer activists are running for Democratic County Central Committee and "hopes the Toklas Club (sic) will take this opportunity to support [him and] those candidates." He will be glad to know that Alice endorsed a very progressive and diverse slate of candidates for the SFDCCC, including lesbians, queers of color, tenant advocates, neighborhood activists, and seniors. Unfortunately, Threet didn't return our candidate ques-

tionnaire. He claims Alice membership but has yet to pay his dues on a membership expired in May 1999. Though invited, he didn't show at our endorsement meeting, and obviously didn't receive Alice's endorsement.

The mayor's election is over. We ask everyone, including Mr. Threet, to join us – and Mayor Brown, with his pledge to raise \$1 million – in fighting the Knight initiative on the March ballot. Let's roll up our sleeves, we have important work to do.

Dean Goodwin & Esther Lee
Alice Co-Chairs

No on Knight is all over the bay

Thank you for your cover story January 13 regarding the Knight initiative. It is imperative that we mobilize ourselves and our allies to defeat Prop 22 on March 7.

I was disappointed, however, in light of the fact that volunteers and donations are critical to the No On Knight campaign, that there was no mention of the other campaign offices, if not around the state, at least in the Bay Area (Oakland 510-869-2214, San Jose 408-266-9687.)

The Oakland No On Knight campaign office, which covers Alameda and Contra Costa counties, has begun voter registration, phone-banking, house parties, tabling, and organizational and event outreach. Plans are underway for precinct walking, and a BART action February 14-18, an effort to hand out flyers at each of the 29 BART stations in the East Bay. Volunteers are also needed to help in the campaign office.

Additionally, a recent addition to the No On Knight website makes it possible to download and print an 8 1/2 x 11 poster (www.noonknight.org/poster.html). Hopefully, this poster will soon be prominently displayed all over the

Bay Area and the state. I would like to encourage anyone who isn't already involved with defeating the Knight initiative to do so today, giving generously of time and money. As was stated in your article, "even those opposed to gay marriage – including members of the LGBT community – must not let their activism fall short when it comes to this issue."

Justin Garrett
Oakland, California

Landlords behaving badly

Three points about the McKeever Ellis Act eviction story ("As the Castro turns," January 13):

First, as someone who spent four weeks researching this case, I was astounded to read the landlords' claim, via their attorney, that McKeever had threatened their lives. That's a very serious charge; yet I called them twice to ask why they had undertaken the eviction, and neither time did they say a word about it. Why not? Did they file a police report? I certainly would, if my downstairs neighbor had made a credible threat against me. Perhaps the B.A.R. can find out. Of course, maybe, just maybe, they made the story up to justify an action that really is not justifiable. I have to wonder what they thought the diminutive, diabetic McKeever was going to do to them anyway: breathe on them, perhaps?

Secondly, why is it that the landlords, Dan Andrade and Mark Chapman, are unable to speak for themselves? Why are they hiding behind their notorious Ellis Act attorney, Andrew Zacks? Is it once again because there simply is no reason recognizable by any moral person for doing what they're doing? Of course, maybe they're just sissy boys, maybe, despite all the Silicon Valley money they've made, they just don't know how to speak up. Andrade, Chapman, and Zacks: the Bonnie, Bonnie, and Clyde of San Francisco.

Finally, I wonder if anybody really believes that a dispute over a dead neighbor's dog is sufficient grounds to throw an elderly man out of his home? Old people are inconvenient: sometimes they pee in their pants, sometimes they burn the soup, and sometimes they're cantankerous and stubborn. But how we respond to and care for our elderly is a measure of us both as individuals and as a community; along with protecting the young and the sick, it's something we're supposed to learn at our mother's knee. All the McKeever case proves is that you can live in a very fancy house on a very exclusive street in a very expensive town and still have the moral stature of a worm.

Bill Weintraub
San Francisco

Doubts landlords' claims

Regarding your front page story on the Ellis Act eviction of longtime Castro resident Glenn-Allen McKeever ("As the Castro turns," January 13).

I can't imagine Glenn-Allen threatening his landlords, as their attorney Andrew Zacks alleges. I worked with Glenn-Allen at Simply Supper, serving food to the homeless; at the Castro Tenants Union;

next page ►

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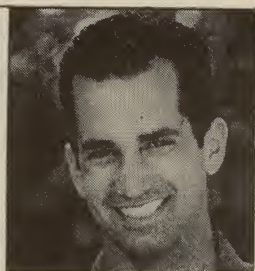
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and during the Ammiano campaign. I know he has threatened to take his own life if he were put out on the street. But threaten to take someone else's life? I doubt it.

By the way, didn't our mayor promise during the election to personally speak to landlords using the Ellis Act to evict tenants? Or was that another bunch of meaningless words from a man who has uttered far too many of them?

Tommi Avicolli Mecca
San Francisco

Liberation doesn't mean breaking laws

I just finished reading your article on the "covert roundup of gay men" in San Antonio [*"San Antonio gay center issues travel warning after learning of arrests,"* January 6]. I used to live in Honolulu, a city with many public restrooms in parks that are used year-round by visitors and locals alike. I always found it to be an embarrassment to the citizenry of the city and the gay community the number of stories about and arrests that were made for indecent exposure.

As a community, gay, straight, or any combination thereof, we should be trying to help police (or park rangers) keep people from breaking laws. Receiving sexual gratification in a public place is not only socially unacceptable behavior, it is illegal. I applaud the community and the park rangers attempts to help make San Antonio's parks a safe place for everyone to enjoy.

It is my belief that you failed to recognize the true atrocity that is taking place — 500 men were arrested for exposing themselves. That this is yet another negative reflection upon, and statement regarding, the gay community is where your story should have been aimed. We have made such great strides over the past few decades, showing the other 90 percent that we're really quite normal people. Incidents like this, to me, go a long way in negating all the gains that have been made and reinforce the negative stereotypes that we're all sex-crazed animals that need to be treated as second-class citizens.

Perhaps I'm just a morally conservative gay man. Perhaps you would say that I haven't realized my true "gay self" if I don't disapprove of the more "traditional," responsible, single-partner way of life. I'm not ashamed to say that I want the things that my parents have, insofar as a relationship is concerned, albeit with another man. What bothers me is that, in the delicate balancing act that my parents and people like them go through in accepting me (us), their fears of what I am are repeatedly reinforced by stories of hundreds of men sexually gratifying themselves in public.

Being gay is to be liberated, it is true, but that does not mean being free to break laws or sink to the level of animal and be surprised when you get caught and punished for it. While some (most?) may want to create and revel in the gay community, we need to realize that most of us live in a predominantly straight one, and are required to abide by the laws of our combined community.

Dr. Christopher A. Waddling, Ph.D.
Albany, New York

AEF thanks calendar men

On January 2 at the Powerhouse, the SMMILE board and South of Market Bare Chest calendar men presented a \$25,000 check to the AIDS Emergency Fund and Positive Resources as beneficiaries of the 2000 Bare Chest calendar.

On behalf of AEF, I want to give special thanks to den daddy Jerry Roberts and Mister Marcus for his unique emcee work. The calendar men and all who participated in the contests deserve thanks and hugs. Miller Brewing Company is a wonderful sponsor and friend of the gay community.

Thanks to all who bought the calendar or attended the contests; hope to see you at the Powerhouse on January 20 or 27 as we start the contests for the 2001 calendar.

As the new president of AEF, I thank this community for your support of AEF since 1982 as we continue to provide direct assistance to people living with HIV and with your support and friends, donors, and volunteers. Let us all keep up this great work.

Peter Fiske, President
AIDS Emergency Fund

First Amendment party planned

With spring just around the corner, we can prepare to once again celebrate the First Amendment on April 23 with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence on the streets of San Francisco at their Easter celebration, which can be combined with a Passover Seder and a First Amendment party. Should the city of San Francisco fail to grant a permit for street closure for this fabulous party, the First Amendment will be our permit. It is the First Amendment to the Constitution that guarantees separation of church and state so that

no religion can dictate what we do on our secular streets. It also guarantees freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, free press, and freedom to petition for redress of grievances.

It is now imperative that we assert our rights under the Constitution for we have an election fraud mayor, Willie Brown, who not only illegally sits in office with only 40 percent of the vote but proudly announces his violation of his oath of office to uphold the Constitution with his opposition to the First Amendment rights of the Sisters to their Easter party. Two members of the Board of Supervisors, Amos Brown and Alicia Becerril, also have violated their oath of office on the same basis for the same reason. As lawyers, Willie Brown and Alicia Becerril violate the same oath of office and on that basis should be disbarred. The refusal to take a position on the part of our straight California and federal representatives is complicity in this attack on the gay community and is a violation of their oath of office.

Our First Amendment party with the Sisters' Easter celebration should be our annual response to election fraud Brown's anti-gay, anti-Semitic, anti-women, anti-science "Catholic vote" crowd where we can celebrate and reassert the benefits of the entire Constitution, including our right to vote.

Lee Heller
San Francisco

Throw the bum out

This is regarding the letter "Off base regarding Rucker" [January 6]. I admire the exceptional tolerance by John Kroll of John Rucker's callous, scornful remarks about others to whom he feels superior. However, the issue is not free speech and First Amendment rights.

When an individual rises to some station in life where he or she represents an organization — commercial, political, religious, or any other public enterprise — whatever that individual says or writes can reflect on that organization. Most organizations wish to exercise editorial approval of any remarks by those using the organization as a forum for personal expression or views. If Rucker were not a baseball player of note, who would have paid any particular attention to his disdainful views?

The issues are civility and propriety. Rucker can be judged on a lack of these and, when such utterances reflect on an organization he uses as a "pulpit" for the expression of his views, management can and should exercise its prerogative in this case by throwing the bum out.

Lee Anderson
Denver, Colorado

Dismay with the math

I read with interest and dismay an article in the January 13 *Chronicle* that the city is setting aside \$73,000 to provide a place to sleep for 8-10 homeless gay youth from February 15 to June 15. My dismay is not with the concept, nor even with the plan. My dismay is with the math. Using their highest estimate of clients (10) this comes to a charge of \$1,825 per month, per person (\$73,000/4/10=\$1,825) for a bed in a facility that already exists. Each person could rent a one- or two-bedroom apartment in the Castro for that amount.

The exorbitant overcharging for services, the waste of money and the career-building of people in the AIDS industry is why I left three different AIDS offices. I see it is no different in other health care and service programs. A friend of mine often says, "We may climb to the top on the backs of the taxpayers, but we don't have to jump up and down." This seems to apply here. Or should I say to the executive director of Refuge, "You don't have to drive back and forth over us in your BMW."

Sophie K. Padgett
San Francisco

Ashamed to be part of neighborhood

I almost bought a T-shirt that said, "I live in Noe Valley and am Proud of it." I am glad I didn't buy it as I am now ashamed to be part of the neighborhood. The nouveau riche mobilized merchants and neighbors to prevent a temporary shelter caring for homeless gay youth.

At Trinity Episcopal at Bush and Gough streets where I am rector, we have provided food and shelter for 75 homeless men for one month a year for the last nine years. It is part of the San Francisco Interfaith Shelter program. I had one complaint from a neighbor who said his *Wall Street Journal* was missing while the homeless were in the neighborhood. I sent him a check for his loss.

I hope the Board of Supervisors vote to finance the project of the Metropolitan Community Church Golden Gate. We landlords and homeowners have made a bundle in real estate. We forced rents sky high and thus are part of creating homeless youth. I welcome the homeless gay youth to our neighborhood.

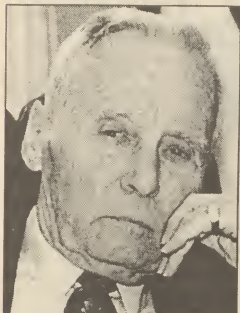
Robert Warren Cromey, Rector
Trinity Episcopal Church

POLITICS

Polls indicate Prop. 22 can be defeated

by Wayne Friday

Despite the fact that the anti-gay Proposition 22 (Knight initiative) is being heavily funded by right-wing extremists like millionaire **Howard Ahmanson**, **Ed Atsinger**, and others (Ahmanson has single-handedly provided \$310,000 of the initiative's nearly \$4 million war chest), recent statewide polls now show that the divisive Proposition 22, authored by anti-gay state Senator **Pete Knight** (R-Palmdale), can be defeated on March 7.



Prop. 22 author Pete Knight

A poll shown to me last week indicates that support for Proposition 22 is at about 50 percent of the state's voters with support against it running at 41 percent with 9 percent still undecided. Another poll shows that once voters have heard persuasive arguments on both sides, the race becomes a dead heat with an equal 47 percent both for and against the initiative and a mere 6 percent undecided. Current polling clearly shows support for the Knight initiative is slipping and the momentum to defeat the anti-gay measure continues to build.

Fundraising for the No on Knight campaign is also up somewhat, but the Knight backers still have amassed twice as much money as the opponents and help for the No on Knight campaign is badly needed — now.

Judy Shepard, the mother of slain hate crime victim **Matthew Shepard** is returning to the U.S. from her home in Saudi Arabia to help in the effort to defeat the Knight initiative and will reportedly campaign against it up until the March 7 primary election. Mrs. Shepard will be in San Francisco next Thursday, January 27 for the Northern California premiere of the documentary *Journey to a Hate Free Millennium*. The film is a moving exploration into the tragedy at Columbine High School, the racially-motivated slaying of Texas resident **James Byrd Jr.**, and the hate-inspired murder of Matthew Shepard in Wyoming. San Francisco Mayor **Willie Brown** is also lending a big hand to the fundraiser, having committed to raise at least six figures for No on Knight from the high dollar cocktail reception preceding the screening. Tickets to the January 27 fundraiser are available through No on Knight at (415) 227-1020. Please help in any way you can to turn back this hateful anti-gay initiative.

If you cannot attend the San Francisco event, check out www.NoOnKnight.org to learn where you can send a check, no

matter the size, to help defeat Proposition 22.

After her appearance in San Francisco, Judy Shepard will go directly to Los Angeles for another No on Knight fundraiser, featuring singer **Melissa Etheridge**, one of the No on Knight's honorary co-chairs. Actress **Cybill Shepherd**, a longtime supporter of gay rights, will also appear at San Francisco's Mecca restaurant on February 22 to help in the cause. Again, ticket information for both the January 27 and February 22 events can be obtained by calling (415) 227-1020. Help is badly needed to offset the millions of dollars that the anti-gay right-wingers like Ahmanson, Atsinger, and others are pouring into this proposition. Recent polls, even those taken by the proponents of the measure, show Proposition 22 losing ground and we can defeat this, but we have less than two months and funds are desperately needed. Make your commitment now.



Our Man Friday

Politics and people

On the morning of the late **Dick Pabich's** memorial last Friday, friends of his found the two bus shelter posters bearing his photo located at 17th and Castro and in front of the Harvey Milk Plaza defaced in an ugly manner with messages such as "Killed by AIDS drugs," "poisoned by AIDS drugs," "AIDS is over," etc. Care to guess what group was responsible for this cowardly, chickenshit act? Small wonder that this group has little or no credibility in the AIDS, gay, and lesbian communities.

Republican leaders meeting in San Jose last week announced a \$10 million nationwide ad campaign aimed at the fast-growing — and mostly Democratic — Latino community. Republican National Committee chair **Jim Nicholson** says they are hoping to garner as much as 40 percent of the powerful new Latino vote in the 2000 elections, but do the Republicans really think that community will be quick to forget the party's role in passing Proposition 187, a hateful plan the GOP is still trying to save?

Republicans meeting in San Jose weren't just discussing how to capture a share of the large Latino vote; GOP leaders were confronted by pro-choice activists, led by actress **Dina Merrill**, who want to remove the contentious anti-abortion plank from the GOP platform when the party holds its nominating convention this July in Philadelphia. If the pro-choice Republicans feel they got the cold shoulder from party leaders in San Jose, wait until they try to make their case in Philly, since none of the remaining six GOP presidential hopefuls is pro-choice.

Bad news for **George W. Bush**, the fair-haired Texas governor with the big bucks (\$70 million and counting) who is about to be crowned the Republican nominee in July. A coalition of the nation's leading environmental groups last week declared Bush to be the "biggest threat" to the environment while saying that former New Jersey Senator **Bill**

Bradley, a Democratic presidential candidate, had the most consistent pro-environment record while in Congress, and calling Vice President **Al Gore**, "the most knowledgeable presidential candidate and the one who showed the most leadership on environmental issues both in and outside the White House."

Bush, meanwhile, told Fox News again Sunday that he would leave the issue of gays in the military "up to my generals" on the Joint Chiefs of Staff (thanks a lot, George, and don't forget to get **Colin Powell's** advice too).

The *Sacramento Bee's* columnist, **R.E. Graswich**, recalling a time when the members of the state Assembly dressed appropriately while on the floor of that body, lamented last week that three members appeared one day without a jacket or tie, while another showed up wearing an open-neck sweater, and said the sloppy appearance of the members gave "one more reason they miss former Speaker Willie Brown — an emperor who knew how to wear clothes."

Pat Buchanan, **Jesse Ventura**, and the other Reform Party members are mad as hell that the Commission on Presidential Debates plans to exclude their party from the upcoming debates between the eventual GOP and Democratic nominees. The commission recently announced that third party candidates must have an average of 15 percent in several national polls to be eligible to participate. It was, of course, the representatives of the two major parties who led the fight to keep the Reformers out of the general election debates.

Bay Area Democrats will pick their delegates to the national nominating convention this Sunday, January 23 at Demo caucuses throughout the Bay Area. Any Democrat can vote, if they are a registered voter in the congressional district. Six Gore and six Bradley delegates will be picked from each congressional district.

One political consultant I know is predicting the new S.F. Board of Supes could have as many as five gay and lesbian members after the fall elections. The possibilities: **Mark Leno** in District 8, **Juanita Owens** in District 5, **Leslie Katz** in District 6, **Tom Ammiano** in District 9, and **Lawrence Wong** in District 3.

A number of well-known gay and lesbian political types are reportedly lining up behind Assembly Speaker **Antonio Villaraigosa** in next year's Los Angeles mayoral race despite the candidacy of an openly gay man, City Councilman **Joel Wachs**, in that contest.

One of my favorite political columnists, **John Jacobs** of the *Sacramento Bee* revealed in a recent column that he is battling melanoma cancer and those of us here at the B.A.R. who know him wish him the very best.

San Francisco's legal community is still awaiting announcements of judicial appointments by Governor **Gray Davis**.

And how was your week? ▼

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Leadership envy

by Nancy Boutilier

The traditional public observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day includes a re-playing of the "I Have a Dream" speech, followed by a reflection on the degree to which the "dream" has come to pass. And, no matter how the Reverend King is packaged for the holiday, even at his most watered-down, I find myself with a little Leadership Envy.

I am saddened and jealous that our movement lacks a King.

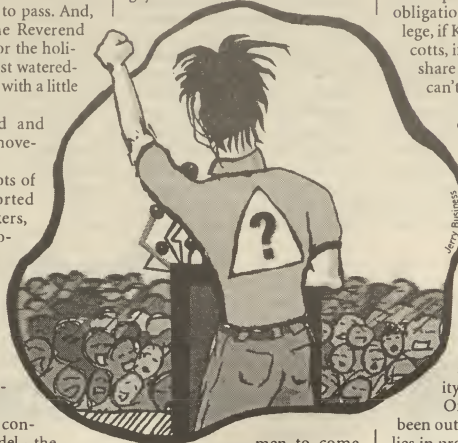
Sure, we have lots of queens and assorted movers, newsmakers, and shakers, but nobody has emerged as the one who can unify our factions, mobilize our power, clarify our vision, and terrify our political enemies into compromise.

Maybe we're constructing a new model—the non-hierarchical, poly-iconic movement. Maybe we are lousy listeners and followers. Maybe the life that would have rallied us all to righteous fervor got snatched away by cancer or AIDS.

Possibly, it's too late in history for heroes. Human frailty is too well-documented. Everyone has a Monica or two to hide. Perhaps it's too early in our history; we haven't hit that big wave yet. And

when we do, whoever is sitting upon that crest will be given a holiday that we can call our own.

A case can be made for Harvey. By all accounts, he was a charismatic leader. He was certainly an activist with wisdom and wit. His call for lesbians and gay



men to come out tapped into a deep chord about integrity and honesty. His speeches are moving, as he really did believe that he had to give 'em hope. And certainly his assassination makes him a candidate for martyrdom.

But Harvey's scope was local, statewide at best. And though his vision may have set the stage for what political victories have followed, he is not seen—and to be honest, I don't think he should be seen—as the icon that defines our movement. Maybe we simply haven't moved far enough to merit such an icon. When gay marriage is a long-standing, matter-of-fact legal occurrence in our nation, the advertising campaign "Got Milk?" may have a better chance of remaining in the American consciousness than the name Harvey Milk.

Maybe I ask too much. I should be satisfied with those brave souls fighting small-scale battles in the social trenches. I should be content to celebrate the people who usher in change by arguing for child custody, by suing schools for their failure to protect gay and lesbian students from homophobic harassment, and by lobbying Congress.

At other times, I ask: Who will rally us to do more than buy products? Is it enough to donate to the queer organizations and vote along gay-friendly lines?

If King could persuade African Americans to refuse their second-class status, if King could remind white people that they had an obligation to refuse white privilege, if King could mobilize boycotts, if King could invite all to share in his dream, then why can't we?

Where is our civil disobedience? What is there to boycott?

We have our queer empowerment in place. We know the injustices and indignities that our people suffer. Who knows better than we do what straight privilege is?

Isn't it time to challenge our straight allies to stand in solidarity with us?

Only recently has there been outcry from our straight allies in protest of the physical violence done against us. Not even queers deserve to be murdered or beaten up, right?

Because of the high-profile violence committed by homophobic service members against other soldiers perceived to be gay we are beginning to hear straight politicians questioning the effectiveness of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, a policy our gay leadership has been challenging since its inception.

What is so discouraging is that the means of persuasion of our straight allies has not been the authority or argument of our gay leadership. No, the agent of change, the "reasoning" it

took for friendly straights to take our side, has been the violent extremes of homophobia exhibited by those who have so clearly denied some queers their most basic right: life.

The gay-bashers have so embarrassed some straight people into acknowledging homophobia and some of the sanctioned discrimination we have been fighting for years. So, I guess it's a starting point to find that straights generally do think we have the right to live.

But who of our straight allies will give up their seat at the front of the marriage bus to ride in the domestic partners seat with us? Until all can marry, none should marry. No one is free until all are free. Shouldn't our allies be boycotting marriage? Shouldn't the clergy be siding with the oppressed? Shouldn't they be refusing to perform a single marriage ceremony until that same ceremony is available to all loving and committed couples?

Egad! Back to reality! We queers have no right to demand things of the oppressors. We are on the defensive. In fact, we haven't even adopted the language of other civil rights movements which have recognized the ways in which systems of institutionalized oppression makes all who are enjoying the benefits of that system part and parcel of the oppression.

Why don't we call straight people our oppressors? Because our friends and parents and siblings and children and neighbors

next page ►



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HISTORY LESSON

Who was George Cukor?

by David Bianco

January 24, 1983 (17 years ago this week): Hollywood film director George Cukor dies in Los Angeles.

Hollywood director George Cukor worked in a variety of film genres over his long career, but the comedy of sexual manners became his particular forte. A gay man whose homosexuality was an open secret in Hollywood, Cukor's comfort with both male and female sexuality and identity shines through many of his now classic comedies.

Cukor was born in New York City in 1899 to middle-class, Hungarian Jewish parents. If his family had gotten it his way, he would have attended Columbia University and become a lawyer like his father and uncle. But Cukor, who had been entranced by New York theater since childhood, had Broadway in mind.

At first, he wanted to be a playwright, but he soon found he hated one unavoidable aspect of writing—working alone. Naturally gregarious and witty, Cukor discovered he was better suited to stage-managing and directing, which required give-and-take with actors. He got his start in summer stock in the early 1920s and within a few years had founded his own seasonal company in Rochester, New York. In regional theater, Cukor gained a reputation as a director whom actors could trust because he both listened to them and modestly refused to take credit when their performances excelled. "He had great pride," one colleague recalled, "but no vanity. ... He gave [actors] the star treatment."

Cukor moved on to Broadway, where his productions were only moderate successes. Still, he was in demand because of his talent for working with actresses, whose roles he seemed to understand and empathize with better than straight male directors did. "He did seem more in touch with women's emotions," Helen Hayes recalled. Many of the most revered (and often temperamental) stage actresses of that time—Ethel Barrymore, Laurette Taylor, Dorothy Gish—wanted him as their director.

The appellation "woman's director" (a slight, given the sexism in the entertainment industry) followed Cukor when he went to Hollywood in 1929, and over the years he made his mark with a number of so-called "women's films." Besides his affinity with actresses, he also preferred female

screenwriters and relied on some of the best—Zoe Akins, Anita Loos, Ruth Gordon. Though not particularly political or feminist, Cukor was sensitive to women's issues. During his early film career, he often sent scripts to Stella Bloch, an old friend from New York, asking her to review them for scenes that might be demeaning to women.

Cukor fell into comedy by accident, but it proved his strong suit. He once quipped that the studio moguls "used to judge your talent by your personality. If you walked into the front office with a long face, they gave you straight drama; if you cracked jokes, they gave you comedy. I cracked jokes."

His first few films were unremarkable. But in 1932, he garnered kudos for *A Bill of Divorcement*, starring 24-year-old Katharine Hepburn in her first screen role. That movie launched a lifelong

friendship with Hepburn, who went on to star in nine of his films, including some of his (and her) best: *Holiday*, *The Philadelphia Story*, and two Tracy-Hepburn vehicles, *Adam's Rib* and *Pat and Mike*. Whenever Hepburn worked in Los Angeles, she stayed in a cottage on the grounds of Cukor's Hollywood estate. (Spencer Tracy stayed in a second cottage, to be discreetly close to her.)

Another collaboration with Hepburn was *Sylvia Scarlett*, a gender-bending comedy costarring Cary Grant. *Sylvia Scarlett* was Cukor's most personally revealing film, "brave as well as foolish," as he later phrased it. The lead character is an embezzler's daughter, who cross-dresses to escape a run-in with authorities. The plot directly challenged traditional male-female roles and boldly winked at homosexuality. These daring features (which caused the film to be condemned by the Catholic-run group the Legion of Decency) made *Sylvia Scarlett* RKO's biggest box office failure of 1935.

Cukor was David O. Selznick's original choice to direct *Gone With the Wind*. But after only a few weeks on the job, there were conflicts with Clark Gable, who hated Cukor's fey manner, especially the way he called cast members "darling." One day during filming, Gable stormed off the set, shouting, "I won't be directed by a fairy! I have to work with a *real man*!" The star didn't report to work the following day, and shortly thereafter Cukor was replaced by Victor Fleming, a pal of Gable's.

Although the general public was unaware of Cukor's sexual

orientation, his homosexuality was well-known in the industry. For years, he hosted soirees at his Hollywood villa, which had been decorated by gay actor William Haines. At these lavish affairs, the queer elite could see and be seen. Cukor's Sunday afternoon parties competed with the all-male fetes of Cole Porter, and the two were sometimes called "the rival queens of Hollywood."

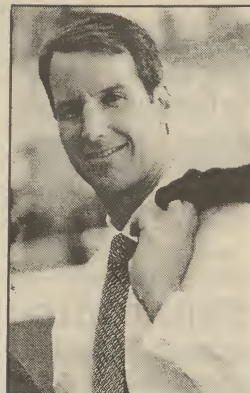
Cukor's career spanned five decades, but he won only one Academy Award, for directing *My Fair Lady* (1964). When he made his last film, *Rich and Famous* (1981), he was 81, the oldest director still working in Hollywood. He died two years later. Many of his films have become queer cult favorites: *Camille* (1937), with its exquisitely painful death scene; *The Women* (1939), with a campy "bitchiness" reminiscent of drag culture; and the musical remake of *A Star is Born* (1954), a comeback vehicle for gay icon Judy Garland. ▼

For further reading

Lambert, Gavin. *On Cukor* (Putnam, 1972).

Mann, William J. *Wise-cracker: The Life and Times of William Haines, Hollywood's First Openly Gay Star* (Viking, 1998).

McGilligan, Patrick. *George Cukor: A Double Life* (HarperPerennial, 1991).



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PALOMAR



Dykeotomy

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and cousins and bosses and ... are straight. Yet, our nation has accepted the Defense of Marriage Act with hardly a murmur of objection. Thirty states have anti-same-sex marriage laws. It's likely that, in March of this year, California will become number 31.

Where is our civil disobedience? What do we dare ask of our straight allies? How shall we challenge their tacit acceptance of their own straight privileges? Who will call for a marriage boycott?

After all, marriage is a person-

al decision. It's a vow between two people, right?

Wrong. It's a relationship that two people enter into with the state. There are lots of ways to commit to one another, many models of making vows that exclude the government's stamp of approval. We queers have known that for a long time. We would be happy to offer advice on coupledom for the unmarried. After all, it is our legislated fate, our second-class place, our seat at the back of the bus.

It may upset our heterosexual friends, but in this day and age, in this homophobic climate, marriage—between a man and a woman—is a political act. ▼

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Rung dry

by Jane Warner and
Ron McGlashan

100 block of Ford, January 14, 12:20 a.m.: A neighbor called police after seeing a man climb a ladder and pound on the second floor window of the house next door. Responding police caught the suspect coming down the ladder, but the suspect told police they were mistaken, that he, too had seen a suspect that looked just like himself running down the street. After a positive identification from the neighbor, the man was arrested. Booked for attempted burglary was Paul Wismer, 34.

Surprise welcome

21st and Castro, January 8, 10:55 p.m.: A man opened his garage door and briefly went to his back yard to do some work. After a while he heard a car horn, and through the open garage door he could see a car double-parked in front of his house. Thinking the car was trying to get his attention, he approached the car, and asked if everything was all right. The woman driver didn't answer and only looked up, over his shoulder. Turning to see what she was looking at, the homeowner glanced up through his window and saw a man standing in his living room. The homeowner ran back

through the open garage, but the suspect ran down the stairs and out the front door. The car was last seen speeding eastbound on 21st Street toward Castro. The male suspect is described as African American, six feet two inches tall, weighing 190 pounds, 35-40 years old, wearing a blue sweater and blue pants. The woman driver was white, 30-35 years old, with bleached blond shoulder length hair.

Robbing the cradle

Castro and

Market, January

13, 4:30 p.m.:

While waiting for the bus at the stop fronting Noah's Bagels, a grandmother and her 4-year-old grandson were approached by a man who took the little boy's hand and started to walk away with him. The grandmother grabbed the boy and went to the front of the bus stop where the suspect stuck candy through the glass partition and told the boy, "Come with me and I will take care of you for the rest of your life." The grandmother took the boy and crossed the street, boarded another bus, and called police when she got home. The suspect is described as a clean-cut white male, 5 feet 4 inches tall, weighing 140 pounds, 30-35 years old, with short brown hair, wearing a gray shirt, gray pants, and black shoes.

Wet Willie

Church and Market, January 14, 10 a.m.: A man boarded a bus and refused to pay the fare. When the driver told him to get off, the man became enraged and spit in

her hair. The driver called for assistance over her dispatch radio and the man fled off the bus. Several other Muni workers responded and caught the man, wrestling him to the sidewalk. A Safeway security officer handcuffed the suspect and held him until police arrived. Booked for assault on a Muni worker was William Bray, 28.

Smile ...

Walgreens, 498 Castro, January 9, 1:15 a.m.: A man who had a history of shoplifting at Walgreens entered the store and was recognized by one of the clerks. The clerk watched him and, after a while, the man took several disposable cameras and stuffed them inside his jacket. The clerk detained him on his way out the door and called 911. Booked for burglary was Eugene Hamilton, 41.

Far East heist

4400 block of 18th Street, January 13, 12:30 p.m.: A man came home from vacation to find his front door wide open, his house ransacked, and a \$9,000 oriental rug missing. A crow bar was determined to have been used to pry the door open. The suspect is unknown.

Spotless

4000 block of 19th Street, January 12, 5:30 p.m.: A man came home, found his front door halfway open, and a laptop computer, CD player, camera, PlayStation, and other numerous items missing from his house. There was no sign of forced entry and the man told police that the only other party with keys to his house was his cleaning company. ▼

Major ACRC shift from trials to treatment

by Marv. Shaw

While HIV treatment has been the predominant activity during its 10 years of drug trials, the AIDS Community Research Consortium in Redwood City has shifted from trying out various medications for their effectiveness against the virus, to treatment with specific drugs, Executive Director Michael Edell revealed this week.

One of the main reasons for the change is the fact that hepatitis C has loomed as at least as threatening a virus, he explained. Even more damaging is the fact that HIV and hepatitis C constitute co-infection in many cases.

Edell said that a major necessity is the need to start an education campaign that will guide patients. Beyond the drug regimen is the demand to educate patients to develop more healthful living routines. Learning to defeat HIV and hepatitis C often means teaching each other. Equally important is serving people of color and low-income patients so that they can overcome limitations and be helped beyond the traditional doctor-patient relationship.

Whereas before, the majority of patients were men, the gender parity among patients has begun to even out, Edell said, with even single mothers getting better

treatment.

As ACRC's shift has provided more instruction in healthful living, classes are being set up on the "living now" model, with regularly established class times. They are under the sponsorship of the San Mateo County AIDS program. The new program has drawn the admiration of the Santa Clara County program, which seeks to follow the model.

When it appeared that ACRC might fail financially, Peninsula health authorities and community leaders became alarmed and moved swiftly to get \$50,000 in financial assistance for the agency. The first major money came last fall, and more recently, \$40,000 in financial aid was secured for developing the treatment and education models. The Peninsula Community Foundation played a key role in fundraising efforts, Edell said.

When questioned on the absence of a vaccination definition and the lack of a vaccination program, Edell cautioned that first, universities, with their million-dollar laboratories are better prepared to do such work, and second, that AIDS is far from being a managed disease and remains a threatening virus.

Nevertheless, ACRC's drug trials will continue on a more limited basis. ▼

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Tom Henning of the Same-Sex Marriage Initiative,
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Bay Area Democratic caucuses

Gore delegate selection caucuses

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Kenilworth Junior High School
998 East Washington Street
Petaluma

Congressional District 7 (Miller)
Plumbers Local 159
1304 Roman Way
Martinez

Congressional District 8 (Pelosi)
Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 38
1621 Market Street
San Francisco

Congressional District 9 (Lee)
I.L.W.U. Local 6
99 Hegenberger Road
Oakland

Congressional District 10 (Tauscher)
City Council Chambers
1666 North Broadway
Walnut Creek

Congressional District 12 (Lantos)
Machinists Union
1511 Rollins Road
Burlingame

Congressional District 13 (Stark)
United Auto Workers
45201 Fremont Boulevard
Fremont

Congressional District 14 (Eshoo)
Los Altos Youth Center
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos

Congressional District 15 (Campbell)
Labor Temple, Meeting Room
2102 Almaden Road
San Jose

Congressional District 16 (Lofgren)
United Food and Commercial Workers
Local 428, 230 S. Market St.
San Jose

Bradley delegate selection caucuses

Congressional District 6 (Woolsey)
College of Marin, Student Center
835 College Avenue
Kentfield

Congressional District 7 (Miller)
El Cerrito High School, Cafeteria
540 Ashbury Avenue
El Cerrito

Congressional District 8 (Pelosi)
Potrero Hill Middle School
655 De Haro Street
San Francisco

Congressional District 9 (Lee)
Malcolm X Junior High School
1731 Prince
Berkeley

Congressional District 10 (Tauscher)
Buena Vista School
2355 San Juan Avenue
Walnut Creek

Congressional District 12 (Lantos)
Brisbane Community Center
250 Visitation Avenue
Brisbane

Congressional District 13 (Stark)
Kenneth Aiken Senior Center
7800 Redwood Road
Castro Valley

Congressional District 14 (Eshoo)
Cubberley Community Center
4000 Middlefield Road T-2
Palo Alto

Congressional District 15 (Campbell)
Los Gatos Neighborhood Center
208 East Main Street
Los Gatos

Congressional District 16 (Lofgren)
Lowell Elementary School Cafeteria
625 South 7th Street
San Jose

LGBT Demos called to caucus

by Terry Beswick

When Democrats hold their national convention in Los Angeles this summer, the suspense of selecting a presidential candidate to represent the party in November is likely to be long over.

But lesbian, gay, bisexual, and

transgender party activists want to make sure their communities are represented when the dramatic roll is called this August, and also when Democrats sit down to craft the party's platform for the presidential election of 2000.

In each of California's 52 congressional districts this Sunday, January 23 at 2 p.m., separate caucuses will be held for Democratic

supporters of Vice President Al Gore and former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley.

"Anybody can go to these things, and where else can 100 people go and make such a big difference?" asked Vicky Kolakowski, who is running as an openly lesbian delegate at the Berkeley caucus for Bradley.

"I'm kind of jazzed about

Bradley," added Kolakowski, an occasional contributor to the *Bay Area Reporter*. "He's really been out there and cool on our issues."

"Gore and Bradley have both been trying to out-gay each other," said San Francisco political consultant Robert Barnes, who is circulating a slate of gay and lesbian delegate candidates for the

page 23 ►

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Gay men of color lead in new AIDS cases, CDC says

by Bob Roehr

The number of new AIDS cases in gay men of color has surpassed that of white gays for the first time in the history of the epidemic. While people of color constitute nearly a quarter of the American population, they totaled 52 percent of new AIDS diagnoses in men having sex with men in 1998, the last year for which complete data is available. MSM is the likely mode of transmission in 60 percent of all AIDS cases in men.

The data was released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at a January 13 news conference and is published in the January 14 issue of *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

"We still think of the gay epidemic as being a totally white one and may not realize the significant role that gay and bisexual activity is playing in the spread of HIV to minority communities," said Dr. Helene Gayle. She is director of the CDC's National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention.

"The tendency to equate gay with white has persisted despite the fact that gay and bisexual men have always represented the greatest proportion of AIDS cases among minority men." Latinos are two times as likely and African Americans are five times as likely



Dr. Helene Gayle of the CDC

to be infected with HIV as are their white counterparts.

"We have been talking about this consistently for more than a decade," said Gayle. "You can talk but if people aren't receptive to the message, it doesn't get picked up. There is a lot of denial around HIV and homosexuality in minority communities."

Cities with populations over 500,000 are home to 85 percent of minority MSM AIDS cases. Leading the list are New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Washington, D.C., and Chicago. Black and Hispanic MSM are being infected at younger ages than white men.

"Combined, these data point

to the urgent need to reach African American and Latino men who have sex with men with HIV prevention, and to reach them early," Gayle concluded.

Stigma and identity

The social stigma of homosexuality "has helped fuel the spread" of HIV within minority communities, said Gayle. While stigma is present across all cultures, "It may even be greater in African American and Latino communities."

She pointed to CDC survey research of HIV-positive MSM ages 13-24: 1 in 4 blacks and 1 in 6 Hispanics identify as heterosexual. That compares with 1 in 17 among whites.

"It is safe to say that fear continues to drive far too many young black and Latino men with AIDS to die alone rather than face the risk of being shunned by family and friends," she said. "Fear continues to drive families to silently hope that their son is a drug addict when they find out that he has AIDS, as opposed to being homosexual."

"The silence of homophobia in communities of color remains a major obstacle," according to Gayle. She called discussion of homophobia "absolutely critical if we are going to reduce the disproportionate impact of HIV." Unconfirmed sources say that Gayle drafted a powerful editorial column on the subject but officials in the CDC's parent Department of Health and Human Services declined to let her try to place it in a leading newspaper.

"This is one of the issues she [Gayle] has been passionate about in private," said Terje Anderson, policy director of the National Association of People with AIDS and a member of the Presidential

Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. He believes that "the release of these statistics has given her an opportunity to finally be able to put them out with complete, official sanction."

Others have suggested that it is not uncommon for people to find courage in the final year of an administration, when they start to think of "their legacy" and how history will record their tenure.

These statistics "show what happens at the junction of race and sexual orientation bias," said Phill Wilson, director of the African American AIDS Policy & Training Institute at the University of Southern California.

Wilson said that the trend was obvious for a long time, but "it did not have to happen." He called it "the fruit of the 'no promo homo' [federal legislative] initiatives of the 1980s," which inhibited discussion of homosexuality in federally funded prevention activities. He lay blame for these infections squarely at the feet of the religious right that pushed for the legislation.

He rejected the notion that minority communities are more homophobic but he does believe, "When that bias happens, it can impact us in more dramatic ways because often we depend on the sanctuary of our racial community." He urged prevention programs that "embrace the humanity of all of us."

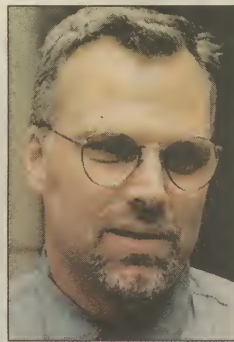
Latino issues

"Homophobia and racism have a particularly virulent expression in the Latino community," said Dr. Rafael Campo, an instructor at Harvard Medical School. He ascribed part of the blame to the negative influence of the Catholic Church, whose policies on condoms, sex, and sexual orientation have inhibited effective prevention activities. He believes that church teaching "puts them at higher risk" for AIDS.

"Fear and self-loathing" hampers prevention efforts and leads to infection of "unknowing wives and girlfriends." He called statistics on Hispanic infections "a harbinger of worse news to come unless we act now" because Latinos are the youngest and fastest growing segment of the American population.

Campo lamented the fact that well-known Latino leaders have refused to step forward and speak up on HIV issues. Only actress

page 22 ►



NAPWA's Terje Anderson

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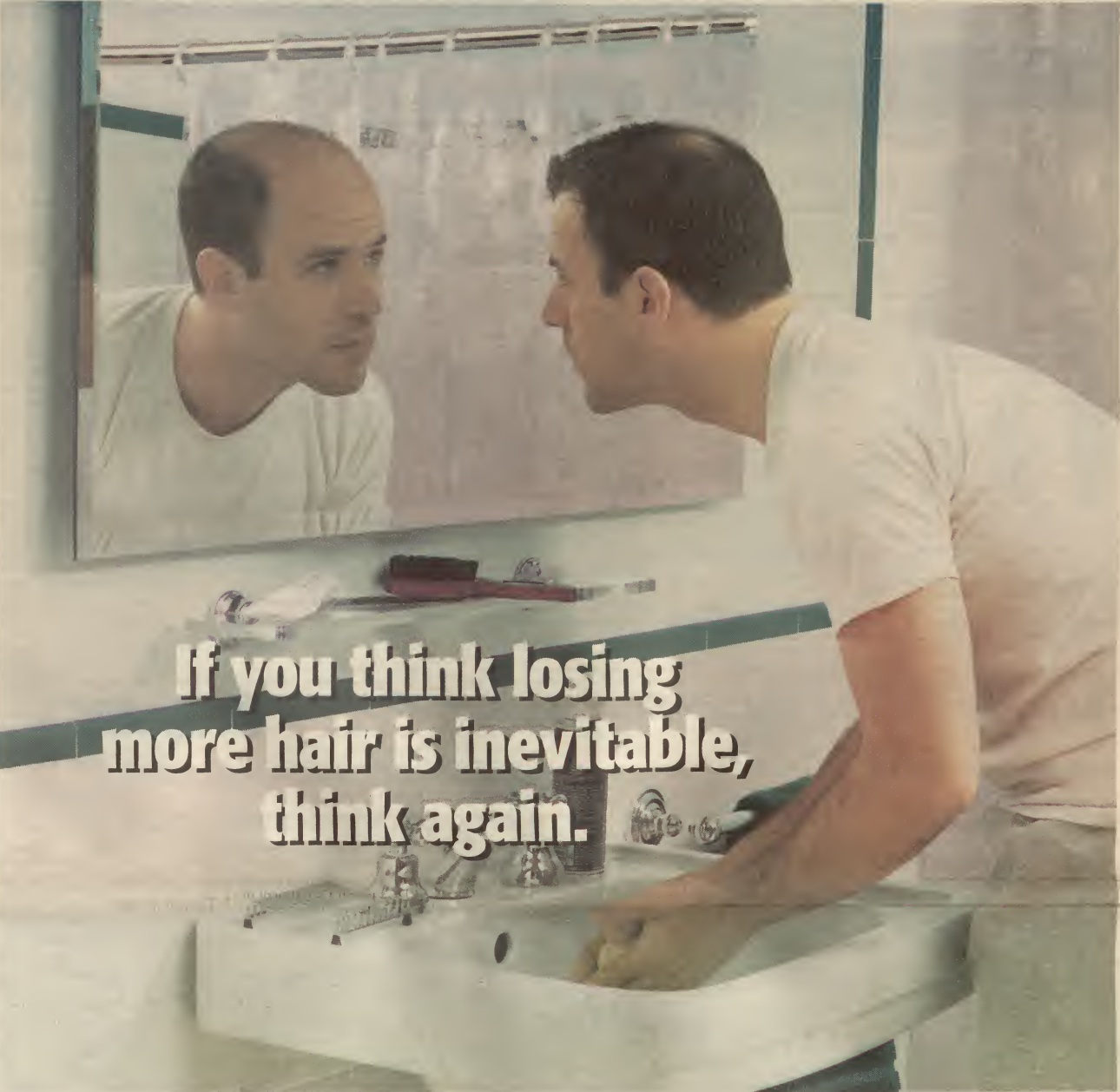
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What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s.

Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

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In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

Will PROPECIA work for me?

For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

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Who should **NOT** take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- **Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:**
 - must not use PROPECIA
 - should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

In general use, the following have been reported infrequently: allergic reactions including rash, itching, hives and swelling of the lips and face; problems with ejaculation; breast tenderness and enlargement; and testicular pain.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual side effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

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Boy Scouts versus gays

Supreme Court to hear case

by Bob Roehr

The epic struggle between gays and the Boy Scouts of America is headed for the U.S. Supreme Court. Last Friday, January 14, in a terse listing of cases, the court accepted the appeal of *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale* for oral arguments in April and a likely ruling before it adjourns at the end of June.

The man at the center of the controversy is James Dale, now 29. He had been a scout from the age of 8, advancing with an exemplary record to the pinnacle of Eagle Scout and serving as an assistant troop leader as an adult. In 1990 a local newspaper published a picture identifying Dale as a leader of the Rutgers University Lesbian/Gay Alliance. The Scouts drummed him out of the organization, saying that homosexuals were not "morally straight."

Last August the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that the Scouts may not bar gays from membership in that organization. In a powerful 7-0 decision Chief Justice Deborah T. Portiz wrote, "It is clear that Boy Scouts does not limit its membership to individuals who belong to a particular religion or subscribe to a specific set of moral beliefs."

"Boy Scout members do not associate for the purpose of disseminating the belief that homosexuality is immoral," it includes "sponsors and members who subscribe to different views in respect of homosexuality."

"Dale's expulsion constituted discrimination based solely on his status as an openly gay man," Portiz concluded. "The sad truth is that excluded groups and individuals have been prevented from

full participation in the social, economic, and political life of this country. The human price of this bigotry has been enormous. At a most fundamental level, adherence to the principle of equality demands that our legal system protect the victim of invidious discrimination."

A key legal argument centered on whether the Scouts are a private association, that may discriminate in terms of its membership, or a public accommodation that may not. The New Jersey court found overwhelming evidence for the latter.

The BSA has long maintained its right to discriminate as a private association. By contrast, the Girl Scouts of America have made no such claims. Several years ago when these legal issues arose, the Girl Scouts issued a statement welcoming all females, including lesbians, to fully participate in activities.

Reactions

"We are confident that, once the justices examine the facts, they will agree with the unanimous New Jersey Supreme Court that Boy Scouts do not come together to promote bigotry and anti-gay bias," said Evan Wolfson in a January 14 telephone news conference. He is an attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which represented Dale in New Jersey and will continue to do so before the Supreme Court.

"The court now has a chance to hear that scouting is about honesty, community service, self-reliance, and respect for others—not discrimination," he said.

In conversations last August, immediately after the New Jersey decision was released, Wolfson

and Matthew Coles, director of the National Lesbian and Gay Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union, both minimized the chance of success for an appeal. They noted that the New Jersey court is highly regarded and often cited by other state courts in reaching their decisions.

Coles pointed out that the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a similar argument made by the U.S. Jaycees to exclude women. "That was 15 years ago, and the court ruled unanimously. I doubt they would revisit the issue now."

Wolfson said that the New Jersey decision "very closely and solidly followed recent and repeated rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court laying out the framework for dealing with these kinds of cases."

The American Center for Law and Justice, founded by televangelist Pat Robertson, had filed a brief with the court in support of the Boy Scouts. Chief counsel Jay Sekulow said, "The decision by the court to hear this critical case represents the Boy Scouts' last and best chance to defend its time honored traditions and define its leadership criteria—something it should be permitted to do under the First Amendment."

But regardless of what the Supreme Court ultimately decides, public pressure may well force the Scouts to end its discriminatory policy. Local government agencies are dropping their sponsorship of troops, nonprofit fundraising agencies such as local United Way campaigns are moving in the same direction, and business leaders are voicing the need for change in this policy. The Scouts have formed a high-power internal committee to study the issue. ▼

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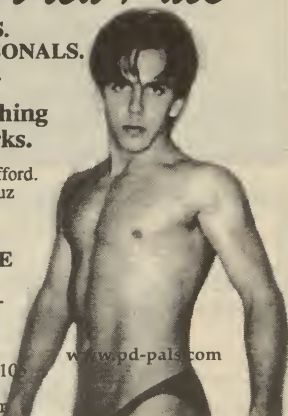
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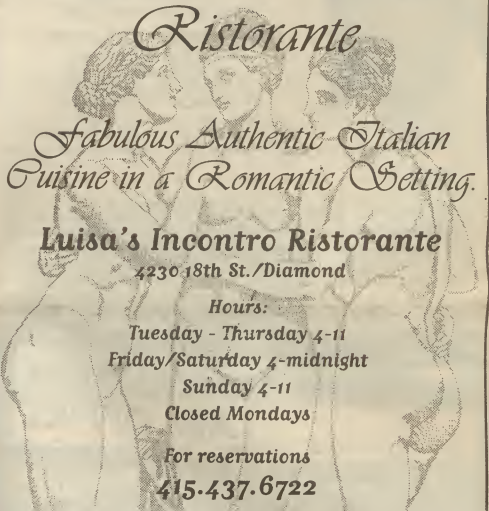
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Yaki

◀ page 1

benefits offered to employees' married spouses, he also seemed to open the door for the law's review.

Channel 2 interviewer Ross McGowan asked the supervisor whether "there's a clause in the regulations—and you feel very comfortable with this—that can be reviewed and possibly changed?"

"As a last resort, certainly that's something that we need to explore," replied Yaki, clarifying that first the SFPD should look for other companies that may have become compliant since passage of the ordinance in 1996. He also pointed out that the city can already grant waivers to contractors who are not yet in compliance with the law.

Yaki's remarks, though he later said they were misunderstood, caused an immediate outcry among gay community activists and politicians.

"I think even the idea of opening it up is wrong. This is civil rights legislation that has been held up in federal court," said Sheehy. "You don't open up people's civil rights for review."

"What was most upsetting to me," said Supervisor Mark Leno, "was to hear a teaser on the news that two police officers had died as a result of the domestic partners ordinance."

Later Tuesday morning, Yaki told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he had been informed by the Ed Lee,

director of the city's purchasing office, that Arrow Falcon was the only helicopter maintenance company that offered domestic partner benefits.

At press time, Lee did not return a call seeking comment.

But Cynthia Goldstein, manager of the equal benefits program at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, said that the SFPD had used Arrow Falcon to maintain the 28-year-old helicopter since it was donated to the city by the U.S. Defense Department in early 1997, shortly before the equal benefits ordinance took effect in June of that year. Goldstein told the B.A.R. that the police department had requested a "sole source" exemption from the equal benefits ordinance from the HRC on June 30, 1999—claiming that Arrow Falcon was the only company in the area that could do the work.

The waiver request was later dropped, as the company came into compliance with the ordinance on August 13—after a little nudging from the HRC, according to Goldstein.

When informed that the equal benefits ordinance apparently had nothing to do with SFPD's contract with Arrow Falcon, or the crash itself, Yaki said, "It's amazing what you come up with when you do some digging around."

Yaki then angrily claimed that it was not Lee, but actually "three different news sources" that had informed him that the city's purchasing office and the SFPD were unable to locate an area contractor that offered domestic partners

benefits, and further suggested that the story may have been planted by the SFPD "to possibly scapegoat what is an extremely good policy."

The police department, at press time, had not returned a call seeking comment.

"I'm appalled," Yaki said, after speaking with Goldstein, adding that he would be asking for a survey of helicopter maintenance companies in the area to see if others could service the police copters, and whether they are in compliance with the domestic partners benefits ordinance.

"This is something that will be rectified," Yaki declared. "And I'm very sorry that some games are being played with this."

The supervisor also offered a mea culpa for drawing a connection between the crash and the ordinance.

"I'm going to stand up at a board meeting later today and apologize for that remark," Yaki said.

But, told that his fellow supervisor now understood that the police officers, in fact, had not been forced to fly to Porterville for maintenance because of the ordinance he authored, Ammiano still sounded angry.

"What if none of that was true?" Ammiano asked. "Would that mean that domestic partners caused the crash?"

"What an asshole," he added.

The actual cause of the helicopter's fatal crash is under investigation by the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board. ▼

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UCSF opens lesbian health research center

by Katie Szymanski

Maybe some day we'll learn how women give each other HIV, or if lesbians are really at a greater risk for breast cancer. Until the medical establishment deems these causes worthy, however, not a lot of energy will go into going to find these answers. Jump starting this effort is the University of California at San Francisco, which last week announced the formation of a new lesbian health research center, one of the first places of its kind.

As it stands, little is known about the health needs and experiences of lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women, because of a lack of research. This lack of research is most likely affecting the healthcare services these women receive, as noted by the Institute of Medicine's 1999 report that lesbians are a medically underserved population.

UCSF's Center for Lesbian Health Research will work to identify the health needs of queer women and determine how they are different from the needs of heterosexual women. The clinic will then go a step further, according to its interim co-director Dr. Patricia Robertson, and examine the varying needs and health issues from within the lesbian community itself.

"Right now we have no idea about the long term effects of hormone doses among women, or about the accuracy of reports that generalize the 'lesbian' iden-

tity as sleeping only with other women," said Robertson. "That's because we're still just learning about which issues affect which sub-population. The clinic will offer a broad scope, an opportunity to determine just what those various issues are."

The center will also coordinate and compile the little amount of research that is already available to create an information bank available to individuals, researchers, and health care providers. The hope is that the in-

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"These women are less likely to get pap smears. Some physicians still say that you don't need to have a pap smear unless you are with a man. We know that is not true," said Dr. Suzanne Dibble, the center's other interim co-director. Dibble also said that lesbians, bisexual, and especially biological women who now live as men,

from around the world will come to apply for grants and perform the study of their choice.

First, however, the clinic needs to ensure its funding. Only \$4,000 in donations have come in; grant money for particular projects will have to fuel the clinic's continuing existence. Robertson said she is confident that the clinic will secure the funds necessary to get off the ground.

"For a field in its infancy," said Robertson, "We're now on the cutting edge." ▼

Breast cancer update this Wednesday

by Terry Beswick

Representatives from Breast Cancer Action will discuss the latest findings on diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of the disease at a forum this Wednesday, January 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the San Francisco Medical Society, at 1409 Sutter between

Franklin and Gough streets.

The presentation will focus on news from last month's San Antonio breast cancer symposium, the largest annual scientific meeting on the disease.

The public is welcome at the free forum; refreshments will be served.

BCA, an "advocacy and activist organization that works to inspire and compel the changes necessary

to end the breast cancer epidemic," also announced that the organization needs volunteers to assist with events, task force and activist work, and with office work during the week. ▼

To RSVP for the forum, or to volunteer with Breast Cancer Action, call (415) 243-9301.

No on Knight

◀ page 1

ponents during the last three month reporting period, which ended December 31, the campaign in favor of Proposition 22 still holds a better than two to one fundraising advantage — about \$4.9 million compared to \$2.1 million.

Still, the No on Knight campaign says they have an "excellent" chance of victory on March 7.

"Our fundraising is up. And support for the initiative is down, according to the latest Field Poll," noted Conaty, who believes one-on-one persuasion will ultimately win the day. "Eighty percent of voters know someone who is gay or lesbian. If every lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender person talks to their family and friends, neighbors and co-workers, and explains why the Knight initiative is anti-gay and homophobic, we can defeat this."

Failing this goal, predicated on the number of people who — like Judy Shepard — are willing to go out on a limb with people they know, the campaign to defeat the Knight

initiative will also need money.

Big money for big media buys, to counter the millions donated to the other side by Christian fundamentalists and the Catholic and Mormon churches.

Although campaign officials had previously said they hoped to raise \$500,000 at the "Hate Free Millennium" event — a target that event co-host Mayor Willie Brown had upped to \$1 million when he announced the benefit at City Hall last December 6 — apparently both of those goals have since been revised.

No on Knight campaign manager Mike Marshall told the Bay Area Reporter that the goal for the benefit is now \$250,000, with a target attendance of "about 300." Marshall said that "a big group of people," including mayoral allies and consultants, "are working on making this a really successful event." Over 5,000 invitations have been sent out, and a phone bank has been at work, targeting people who have previously donated \$250 or more to the campaign.

Tickets for the 8 p.m. screening are \$50 to \$100, which includes a reception with dessert following the screening. VIP tickets, which

include a cocktail buffet and preferred film seating, are \$500 to \$1,000, or \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a table of 10.

In addition to the murder of the diminutive Matthew Shepard, who died after he was found severely beaten and tied to a fence post in a Wyoming prairie, the motives behind the slaying of James Byrd Jr., who was dismembered as three white men dragged him behind their truck along a Texan country road, and the seemingly random Columbine High School shootings in Colorado, are also examined in the *Journey to a Hate Free Millennium* documentary.

"If we want to stop hate crimes, we must stop hate initiatives," said Mrs. Shepard. ▼

Tickets to the January 27 benefit may be reserved by phone at (415) 864-8523, or by e-mail to Info@PoulosBrothers.com. To donate, to volunteer, or for more information about the No on Knight/Proposition 22 campaign, call (415) 227-1020, or go to www.NoOnKnight.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Supe aide moves to Muni

by Cynthia Laird

Openly lesbian Laura Spanjian has traded the rough and tumble world of being a supervisor's aide to the even more chaotic world of San Francisco's municipal railway system, and so far, she's holding her own as the only queer in Muni's top administration.

Spanjian left Supervisor Leslie Katz nearly two months ago to work for Michael Burns, Muni's general manager, as his special assistant. Muni, not known for its rosy public image, has improved since the infamous meltdown in the summer of 1998, and Burns, who came to San Francisco from Philadelphia last April, has begun to turn things around. New buses are hitting the streets, graffiti is being cleaned off the buses – often within two days of being spray painted on – and nominees soon will be interviewed by Mayor Willie Brown for the city's new Public Transportation Commission, which voters overwhelmingly approved last November.

"I'll be his [Burns] liaison to



Laura Spanjian is helping Muni general manager Michael Burns work to improve the transit system.

critical of that project, Spanjian said she "loved working on the EVRC shelter."

"I thought it was a great shelter even though it had its problems," she said.

Spanjian also assisted Katz in her duties as chair of the supervisors' Transportation and Land Use

some employees, which Spanjian said is already starting to happen. "I think the Muni culture has improved. Michael Burns is very committed to creating change in a way that's inclusive to everybody. He's involving everybody and listening and I think people respect that."

For his part, Burns said he recruited Spanjian to come work for Muni after realizing he needed someone who understood transportation policy issues. "For 15 years Muni has been day-to-day with no long term planning. I needed people to help with that aspect and the legislative process and she has a good background. She's allowed me to get out more and meet with employees."

Overall, Burns sees a brighter picture for the troubled transit system. "It's one step at a time. New equipment is coming on line and over the next two and a half years, two-thirds of the fleet will be new," he said.

Muni drivers have a tough job, Spanjian said. "It's hard to be a driver. If one train is late you hear it from 40 people. It is very challenging."

Added Spanjian, "The biggest positive thing for Muni lately is that reliability has greatly improved." ▼

situation. While the 10-bed winter space may not be the comprehensive program necessary, it will at least reach some kids who otherwise would not seek help.

"We've learned that not only is there a sizable amount of queer homeless youth in this city, but also that these youth often do not feel comfortable accessing many of the city's shelters," said board President Tom Ammann. "I urge my fellow supervisors to support this so we can open the shelter in time to make a difference."

In the end, the shelter received overwhelming support, even from those who disliked the way it was presented to the neighborhood.

"I will let it go this time," said Supervisor Mabel Teng, "But in the future, we have to solicit and welcome community involvement."

And, at the request of Supervisor Barbara Kaufman, the city's funding went from \$73,000 to \$54,000, based on the fact that the shelter would now run for three months instead of the originally proposed four months.

Regardless of the flawed process and minor glitches, most supervisors said that 10 beds in a structured shelter was a hard proposal to disagree with.

Both Ammann and Supervisor Mark Leno – who lives in Noe Valley – volunteered their time to help with the shelter, and said that they would be a presence there.

"I will be there more nights than not," Leno told the board, "in order to establish a relationship with the kids and make sure the program is working for both the kids and the neighborhood." ▼

the Board of Supervisors and to the new agency created by Proposition E," Spanjian told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "In his representative at community meetings and internal projects."

While working for Katz, Spanjian was instrumental in getting last year's temporary shelter for homeless queer youth established at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center. While neighbors still are

Youth shelter

◀ page 1

tion to the process itself was enough to warrant a "no" vote on the proposal. At Tuesday's meeting, Yee said that because some questions about potential loitering and the availability of counseling still had not been addressed, the project should not move forward.

"There are not enough details to help me," he said, "so that I can help other individuals understand how this is going to work."

However, Yee also noted that if the issues had indeed already been addressed as he requested, then that would "further the suspicion that this is a done deal."

Brown agreed, adding that as long as the city spends money on homeless programs that do not fulfill the needs of all populations, it wasn't fair to earmark money for one of those populations.

"I'm for fairness across the board," said Brown. "And I cannot approve this and then look my brothers in the face." He called for a review of the entire homeless shelter system that tracked how the city's money was being spent.

More on topic, Supervisor Leslie Katz countered those comments by highlighting the "critical need" for the shelter.

"It is an imperfect solution," said Katz, "but it is one that can bring tremendous success rates."


Katz and other supporters of the project noted that getting queer youth into the shelter program was a good place to start in addressing the homeless youth

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Quilt founder appalled by AIDS conditions in South Africa

by Jeff Getty, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

Cleve Jones, founder of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, recently traveled to South Africa to see for himself how the promising new nation was dealing with AIDS. Jones came back to the U.S. amazed, saddened, and angry about what he saw in that country.

"It was both appalling and inspiring. AIDS in South Africa is devastating, there are not words to describe the horror," Jones said in a recent interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*. Jones and others brought the AIDS Memorial Quilt to Cape Town, South Africa, at the invitation of the Parliament of World Religions conference held there in early December. Portions of the AIDS quilt were spread throughout the countryside in local townships.

While the South Africans were genuinely gratified to see the quilt and meet with foreign AIDS activists, Jones said that they had little or no idea that people in the U.S. and Europe were concerned with their plight. "The vast majority were completely unaware of support for them in the U.S. or the rest of the world," Jones mentioned.

Jones traveled throughout the country visiting various small towns and meeting with local AIDS activists. What he saw seems to have changed his perspective and future goals as an activist. "What people in South Africa face now [with AIDS] makes what we went through 10 years ago seem like a Sunday picnic," said an incredulous Jones.

According to Jones the average HIV-positive person only survives for about five years following infection. "It's even less for the children." Most patients die from tuberculosis and never even live to experience the usual opportunistic infections faced by most Western AIDS patients. HIV complicated by TB is so rampant in South Africa that it has shortened the average life span to some 45 years or less. Unlike Western countries, there is little medicine available to treat TB, and even when there is, there is no money to monitor and follow patients to be sure they take their drugs. Crowded living conditions and unspeak-



Cleve Jones at a 1991 fundraiser.

able poverty form a perfect breeding ground for a different and much more deadly version of AIDS. Jones said that teenagers are infected at a much higher rate. "In some places it's almost 50 percent of the teen population," he said.

Though the gay community has been affected, most cases of HIV infection take place among poor black women and their children. AIDS on the African continent in general is now seen as the biggest impediment to development in that part of the world. Luc Montagnier, a French AIDS researcher, recently estimated that by the year 2020, one-third of the entire population of Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe will likely die from AIDS. Montagnier and others believe that the epidemic is spreading faster in the southern half of Africa. Jones said that AIDS is now the biggest single threat to South Africa's dream of a democracy, a dream that includes gay people.

While every family seemed to be aware of the huge problem of AIDS in South Africa, Jones observed that there were few individuals willing to force the government to face the problem publicly. "The stigma of the disease is so powerful that few will speak out," he said.

A January 11 article by the Associated Press' Craig Nelson mentioned that people throughout Africa are ill-informed and superstitious about AIDS. In Kenya, it is sometimes believed that AIDS is some kind of spell or bewitch-

ment. In many parts of Africa people think that condom use spreads AIDS because, according to Nelson's report, people with AIDS use condoms. Some believe there are tiny holes the latex, holes put there by white westerners who want to limit Africa's population.

Jones also observed strange superstitions about AIDS in South Africa. "Many infected men believe that the only way they can be cured of AIDS is to have sex with a virgin," he said.

Given that South Africa has the world's highest levels of reported rape, HIV and AIDS is spreading in a cruel and aggressive manner. "People who are trying to educate the population about AIDS are appalled by these kinds of beliefs," said Jones. "I also heard people saying that AIDS was a plan by the white man to keep Africans from reproducing," he added.

One man, millions of deaths?

But only to add insult to injury, Jones was horrified to learn that proponents of Dr. Peter Duesberg (a right-wing-connected scientist who espouses that HIV does not cause AIDS) were hard at work in South Africa, trying to disrupt and derail government attempts to get the disease under control. "Every time we spoke with reporters, they asked us if we thought that HIV even caused AIDS. Duesberg is politically active in South Africa," Jones said.

Recently, the government had announced that there would be no new program to get drugs to HIV infected pregnant women in order to block mother-to-child HIV transmission. A leading AIDS physician in that country, Dr. Grinwood, criticized the government for its inaction. According to Jones, Grinwood was publicly attacked by Duesberg's followers in a letter writing campaign that came from all over the world. "Grinwood is now in danger of losing his job," he remarked. "That man [Duesberg] will one day be responsible for millions of deaths," Jones said bitterly.

The most important issue for PWAs in Africa today is to get treatment and support, said Jones. Mother-to-child disease transmission could be stopped with only a small amount of drugs. "The West could afford to pay for this," he said. Jones thinks that even this small first step could be a long way from happening. "I think the government is terrified what will happen when 4 or 5 million infected people begin demanding these drugs," he speculated.

While in Cape Town, Jones met with activists from NACOSA and NOWASA, the two leading AIDS organizations in that country. Jones said that he asked the Africans what we, as Americans, could do to help. The Africans seemed to think that a sponsorship program between infected individuals in both countries as well as institutional sponsorships between the U.S. and South Africa would be an important first step. So Jones is enthusiastically pursuing the creation of a type of AIDS

page 23 ►

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OBITUARIES

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

André V. Adams 1944 — 2000



André was born in New Jersey in 1944. He joined the Air Force in 1962 where he met his life-long friend Peter Fiske. Together, on black, one white, both gay, they created havoc in segregated Biloxi, Mississippi. André was the first black person to appear on a local TV entertainment program in Mississippi (a modern dance program).

He and Peter moved to San Francisco in 1966. André created "Miss Karyl André" and appeared with Charles Pierce at the Guilded Cage in 1968 and 1969. In 1969 he and Peter returned to New York for a few months and their favorite place was the Stonewall Inn. They were proud of their Stonewall connection and marched together in the Stonewall group for Stonewall 20 in the 1989 Pride Parade in San Francisco.

André had an active life in San Francisco and appeared in many shows on stage. He passed peacefully to another stage on Saturday, January 8, 2000 and the Gods are surely well entertained now.

The AIDS Emergency Fund helped André through some hard times, so if you remember André (or Karyl André), give to AEF in his memory.

Frank Braecklein September 20, 1934 — January 7, 2000



Frank Braecklein, real estate broker and long-time Castro resident, passed away January 7, 2000 of cancer. Frank touched many lives simply by virtue of his innate sociability

which treated complete strangers as life-long friends. He was 65.

His life was the fulfillment of a driving curiosity about life and people. In his twenties, he pursued a succession of professions — Army private, bartender, limousine driver. He even attended law school before settling on a career in real estate. His personal tastes were equally varied and included art and antiques, cooking, classical and dixieland music, and history. He was a warehouse of historical data and anecdotes, mostly about San Francisco, the city he loved.

In 1960 he met his lover of 26 years, Dean Townsend, with whom he shared an apartment at Noe and 18th St. for a number of years. After Dean's death from AIDS in 1986, he moved to Hattie and Market Streets, where he was joined in 1989 by his lover of six years, Bill Casey, and their dog, Oscar, which he walked daily. Dog walkers in the Castro may remember Frank's involuntary habit of stopping them to admire their pets, and to exchange a friendly word.

Frank's brassy, boisterous personality housed an uncommonly tender and generous spirit that won him many loyal and loving friends, including Tim Hobson, Eli Weinstein, Jerry Kunz, Richard Winger, Jean Razenne, John Davis, Leonard Casey, Bill Casey, Co Tyiska and many others.

A gathering in Frank's honor will be held in late January. For further details, please call (510) 428-2335.

Diane E. Burke, née Fratus



Diane E. Burke, née Fratus died in Sebastopol on January 10, 2000, at the age of 69 years. A native of San Francisco, Diane graduated from Star of the Sea High School and San Francisco State and

taught physical education at Star of the Sea from 1952 to 1956. She then married Alvan F. Burke and had two sons, Joe born in 1957, and Kevin in 1960. In the early 1970s she was a librarian at Lincoln High School, and later worked for Meals on Wheels from 1987 to 1991.

Diane was a well-known member of the Women's Community, not only as an outstanding league darts player, but especially through her work as a principal bartender at Peg's Place during the 1980s. Her warm and quick wit delighted all and contributed in large measure to the continued success of the bar, which was one of the most popular women's bars in its time. She later worked as a part-time bartender at Wild Side West from 1989 to 1992, where she made many more friends before she retired.

In the spring of 1999 she and her sons and her long-time friend and companion, Joan McGuire, moved to Guerneville, where Diane died peacefully on January 10 after a brief illness. On January 14, a funeral mass was conducted at Star of the Sea church, followed by a memorial luncheon attended by relatives and friends at the Cliff House.

Walter Matus Lichtenstein

On January 8, 2000, Walter Lichtenstein of San Francisco, Calif. passed away at Kaiser Hospital after a brief illness. He was 57 years old. Walter was born in New York City and was the adoptive son of Dr. Murray and Iris Lichtenstein of Mount Vernon, New York. He attended Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, where he graduated with honors in 1964. He then earned his Master's degree at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois, and pursued his doctorate in French at the University of California at Berkeley in 1971. He spent his professional life as a professor of French at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois; at the University of Maine in Fort Kent, Maine; and at City College of San Francisco. Walter loved teaching and was frequently voted "best teacher" by his students.

His remains have been cremated at Pacific Interment Service, Inc., and his friends will hold a memorial at a later date. Friends wishing to make a tribute to his memory are encouraged to donate to the French Foreign Study Program at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, or to their favorite charity in his name. Walter will be deeply missed by his partner, Thomas Youngerman, and by his many friends.

John P. McMichael, Jr. March 5, 1943 — December 11, 1999



John passed on after a massive heart attack.

Park Hyatt Hotel employee, Vietnam Major chaplain, dedicated Giants fan, 49er's lover, slot machine aficionado, computer neophyte, joker, guide, mentor, people person, member of Knights Templar, motorcyclist, tough leather dad, friend, lover... all these things and much more are John. We are grateful for his light.

Jackie Mei Ling



At one minute past 12:00 a.m., January 1, 2000, while all the world was celebrating the turn of the millennium, Jackie Mei Ling crossed over. For over 55 years, he was part of the theater on Broadway and here in his beloved San Francisco at the Forbidden City and Finnchios.

Jackie could often be seen along Polk Street going to his favorite bars, holding court and cutting up old touches; a star of indeterminate age.

He was a connoisseur of all things: fine food and drink, style, the arts, music, and indeed life itself. Move over, Auntie Mame, "Ladies Served in the Rear."



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Memorial service this Saturday for Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen

by Cynthia Laird

A Catholic memorial ceremony for the late Superior Court Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen is scheduled for this Saturday, January 22 at 2 p.m. at Star of the Sea Church, 4420 Geary Boulevard in San Francisco.

Von Beroldingen was one of the most accomplished women in city history and a longtime friend of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. She fought for more than six decades for equal rights and the advancement of women — both in private industry and public service. In her capacity as an advertising executive, legal scholar, private attorney, city commissioner, city supervisor, and as the city's senior trial court judge, she achieved a long list of significant "firsts" for women.

Longtime friends, supporters, and colleagues of the judge will participate in Saturday's service. U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein,



Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen

Mayor Willie Brown, presiding Superior Court Judge Alfred Chiantelli, Judge Ollie Marie Victoire, and political consultant Duke Smith will deliver eulogies. Following opening prayers, attorney Robert J. McCarthy and senior community leader Jeanne Lynch will read brief passages from the Old and New Testaments.

Judge von Beroldingen, who retired from Superior Court in August and passed away on December 19 at the age of 84, was baptized at Star of the Sea in 1956. The Reverend Monsignor Charles J. Durkin, who was a priest at the parish during the 1950s, will conduct the vigil service. A full funeral mass will not be performed.

An afternoon reception follows the ceremony at the San Remo restaurant, located at 2237 Mason Street, between Chestnut and Francisco.

Flowers may be sent to the church rectory, 4420 Geary Boulevard, on the day of the service. In lieu of flowers, donations in von Beroldingen's memory may be made to the San Francisco Senior Center or the Senior Action Network.

For questions concerning the service, arrangements for parking, or to confirm attendance at the reception, mourners are asked to leave a name and phone number at (415) 552-2302. ▼

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The clue train

by Jim Provenzano

It was December 1999. I was riding the #7 train to Queens, where I was born. With me was a queer with AIDS, who was apartment shopping. Next to us was some kid with purple hair, a black welfare mom with a kid in a stroller too busy strangling his Pokemon to notice the funny faces I was making.

Across the car was a sleeping homeless guy, a Puerto Rican couple in a matching pair of puffy down vests, a Pakistani guy with a bag full of toys from KayBee, a transit cop, and some loud German tourists in shorts.

On the floor of the train car was a newspaper with the face of a big lunky baseball player on it.

What a pleasure it was to be in the city of my birth at the moment when a chaw-spittin' bigot from a city with a baseball team named after a bunch of slaughtered Native Americans got basically put through the wringer for pretty much maligning anyone who wasn't like him, particularly the variety pack of residents of the city of my birth.

How shocked everyone was, or pretended to be. The outrage. The scandal. A white Southern baseball player hates blacks and gays. Stop the presses.

But the presses, of course, did not stop. In fact, they could have paid the lunky bigoted baseball player, since they sold so many more papers by reporting on what the bigoted lunky baseball player said.

That's because the presses are owned by the same rich white

men who own the baseball player's team, and the network that broadcasts the athletic endeavors of said baseball player.

Now, we all know what scions of justice and objectivity these papers are. Take *Sports Illustrated*. Note its proud history of reporting gay and lesbian struggles in sports, such as issue #... Oh well.

Take the *New York Post*. Always a friend to our community, who could forget their front page coverage of an ACT UP demo: GAY RAGE! Or their supportive coverage of Madonna's ambisexual music video, "Justify My Love": WHAT A TRAMP!

In playing the lunky bigot's mug across their pages, the *Post* posted a tired pun while resurrecting antique terminology in using PUNK, thus being ho-

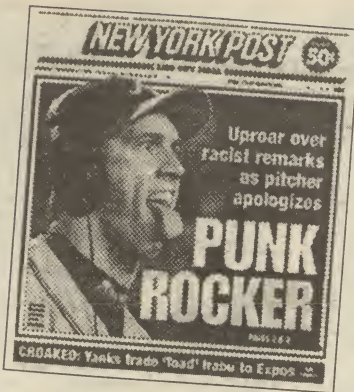
mophobic to a homophobe (Besides the well-worn music reference, punk's an old slang version of fag, or a young man who sexually... well, in days of yore, I think they called them cabin boys).

And all those honorable "aw, shucks" sports writers who feigned disdain at such statements, or offered a "tsk, tsk" as if they had never heard such talk on a diamond or in the dugout, were duly ready to crank out the publicist's releases about "apologies" and "retractions," before asking any members of the gay community to respond, and only after the entire buffet of bigotry had been reduced to the essentials, which were just about race, since, well, you know, that's more important, since the lunky bigoted baseball player has to work with blacks and Latinos and Dominican guys,

not homos.

This needs to be cured, they said. This needs to be stopped. This isn't just a tiny pimple on the face of a big ugly corrupt corporate empire run by rich white men who are too busy buying the presidency for the son of a former president who just sold a house that had a "whites only" clause. This is an isolated incident, an anomaly, a freak.

Because of course there isn't a trace of racism, sexism or homophobia in the good 'ole sport of baseball. Just because black leagues were demolished by white owners embarrassed by their superiority, just because women's leagues were eliminated, just because players like Billy Bean and Glenn Burke basically had their careers poisoned by the stinking offal of hatred and pig-headed idiocy that embodies American sport doesn't mean there's a problem.



Yes, what a strange case it was, a baseball player talking like a bigot. How unusual.

And I seem to recall, after being poked and prodded and analyzed and examined, that what the lunky bigoted baseball player needed was a change of place, a Metro Pass to the clue train.

Because sometime, the karmic gods will put directly in your path that which you misunderstand

most, until you get it, and grow up.

It was December 2000.

I was riding the #7 train to Queens, where I was born. With me was a queer with AIDS, who'd bought kitchen stuff for his new apartment. Next to us was some kid with orange hair, a black former welfare mom with a kid in a stroller making funny faces at me.

Across the car was a sleeping homeless guy, a Puerto Rican couple in a matching pair of puffy down vests with a baby, a Pakistani guy with a bag full of groceries from D'Agostino's, a transit cop, and some Japanese tourists in shorts.

Further down the train car, all alone, grumbling and spitting, his eyes rolling back into his head every now and then, was some big lunky baseball player who'd recently been traded.

I guess he was late for work. ▼



New AIDS cases

◀ page 14

Rosie Perez attended a Hispanic AIDS summit at Harvard last year, despite the fact that "we had invited elected officials, prominent sports figures, entertainment leaders," he said. "It was quite astonishing to see that kind of silence in action." Hispanic members of Congress represent districts with some of the highest rates of HIV infection in the nation.

USC's Wilson called for "destigmatization of homosexuality, both in communities and internally" as part of AIDS prevention. He explained, "If you have people who are unable to acknowledge

their behavior on any level, then they are not able to take action to either change that behavior or protect their partners."

He believes that an expansion of "initiatives run by and for gay men of color" addressing issues of self-esteem, family reconciliation, and dialogue with traditional African American institutions will contribute much to AIDS prevention.

Craig E. Thompson, executive director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, said, "The need for fully funded and culturally competent prevention services to address these issues — especially for youth most at risk — is more urgent than ever."

For NAPWA's Anderson, this statistical milestone is "a wake up

call." Gay community leaders "have become a bit complacent because the white boys ain't getting quite so sick anymore." While "among much of the established institutional leadership of the African American and Latino organizations, there is a backpedaling on sexual orientation issues."

"Are we really listening to African American and Latino gay men and taking their needs seriously?" he asked. "A lot of gay men of color feel that they are stuck in this no man's land between the two. Rather than being embraced and supported by both communities, they are kind of left on their own by both." Anderson sees the challenge as one of changing this perception and the reality behind it. ▼

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Pot ID cards

◀ page 3

Randi Webster, co-director of the Patients' Resource Center, a medical marijuana club. "That's what the card is about, finally defining who the patient is."

But Dr. Herminia Palacio, special policy advisor to DPH, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the new cards will not change the fact that those without money and insurance have less options for health-care.

"I actually think that the new system is completely neutral in that regard; those persons will not be hurt, nor helped, by the policy," said Palacio, who acknowledged that the cards, although used by

local law enforcement, will not protect physicians from federal prosecution. Therefore, doctors currently fearful of that possibility will likely not be swayed by the issuance of ID cards.

The cards, agree most people both in favor and opposed to the idea, will help card carriers avoid police harassment. But since the cards will not change capitalism, the challenge for the city is to reach out to those who are not plugged into regular medical care, fearless physicians, or the medical marijuana circle.

Leno told the B.A.R. that a provision in the legislation that asks the DPH to "heed the advice of citizens' groups" would be one way to reach people who are outsiders to the medical marijuana process.

"I would think that one recommendation from these groups could be to do outreach to less obvious communities," said Leno.

And outreach to educate physicians is something that the Patients' Resource Center is already doing, according to Webster.

"Doctors have seen the tie-dye and the other images associated with marijuana," said Webster. "Now it's time for them to see medical marijuana patients as their sister, their daughter, their brother, their friend."

Putting a familiar face on medical marijuana is one way to convince physicians to help their patients; providing access to medical marijuana to those without access to decent healthcare may prove more difficult. ▼

Caucuses

◀ page 13

vice president.

All registered Democrats who attend party caucuses will be eligible to vote for delegates to the nominating convention, provided they live in the congressional district where the caucus is being held.

Anyone not registered to vote may register at the meetings, and those registered with another party may re-register. Early attendance is encouraged; doors close at 3 p.m. sharp.

In San Francisco's Congressional District 8, Gore supporters will nominate delegates at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 38,

at 1621 Market Street, while supporters of Bradley will select their delegate designates at the Potrero Hill Middle School, at 655 De Haro Street. [See sidebar for all Bay Area caucus locations.]

The California Democratic Party, unlike its Republican counterpart, sets "targets" of minority representation among the delegation. Five percent of the delegation are supposed to be lesbians, for example, while five percent are to be gay men. Half of all delegates are to be men, and the other half women.

Each caucus of Democrats for Bradley and each for Gore will select three men and three women on Sunday who may serve as delegates to the convention. Each potential delegate will be ranked according

to the number of votes they receive, with the bottom vote-getters possibly serving as alternates.

The total number from each district who will actually go to Los Angeles will depend on the percentage of votes Bradley and Gore receive in California's March 7 presidential primary election.

Delegate candidates must have filed papers with the California Democratic Party a couple of weeks ago. Each will be given the opportunity to make a one-minute speech to the caucus before the votes are taken.

"It's competitive, but it's a competition among friends," said Barnes, adding that he is not running as a delegate himself, as he expects to be working as a paid consultant at the convention. ▼

is currently working on a proposal for the Names Project to begin such a program.

The South Africans are excited about the creation of such a program and have been boiling out the details since Christmas. Soon American PWAs could adopt South African pen pals. When given the overwhelming horror of AIDS in Africa, some might ask, why bother, any help would be just a drop in the ocean. Jones responded by saying that this first step is necessary to build the momentum needed to create a moral

imperative in the West to help the developing world. At the same time, he noted that South Africans must be willing to help themselves. "One young man I met said that if people outside South Africa were fighting for them, then it's time for South Africans to fight for themselves," said Jones. ▼

Cleve Jones has co-written a new book with Jeff Dawson entitled, *Stitching a Revolution*. The book will be available in March.

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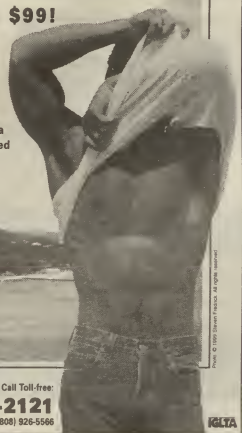
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Full-time position. Dual medical/psychosocial case management program for people with either HIV or cancer. Intake and assess client, link to medical services and monitor progress, issue MD orders. No hands-on care. Values-based, client centered, team approach working with another nurse and 2 social workers in beautiful Napa County. Experience with HIV and/or cancer preferred. Competitive salary range. Position open until filled. Resume to HIV Network/CCM, 1100 Trancas Street, #300, Napa, CA 94558. No phone calls, please. EOE

SOCIAL WORKER

Full-time position. Dual psychosocial/medical case management program for people with either HIV or cancer. Intake and assess client, link to social services, council and monitor progress. Values-based, client centered, team approach working with 2 nurses and another social worker in beautiful Napa County. Experience with HIV and/or cancer preferred. Competitive salary range. Position open until filled. Resume to: HIV Network/CCM, 1100 Trancas Street, #300, Napa, CA 94558. No phone calls please. EOE

E04

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Individual sought to join dynamic, committed and diverse staff. Responsibilities include assisting ED with all communications, maintenance of sched calendar, including travel arrangements. Must have excellent communications skills, be highly organized and detail oriented. Ability to work with a diverse group of people and be a team player. MS Word and MS Excel a must. Salary to mid \$30K DOE. Mail or fax resume to The NAMES Project Foundation 310 Townsend Street, Suite 310, San Francisco, California 94107. Fax No 415.882.6200. We strongly urge people of color, women, gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender people and people with disabilities to apply.

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E05

San Mateo County's AIDS Program is seeking energetic and knowledgeable individuals for our team. Available positions are full-time and offer an excellent benefits package! Requires experience providing outreach for HIV/AIDS prevention to diverse communities. Community health worker training desirable; HIV counseling and testing training and certification helpful. English/Spanish fluency a strong plus.

Women's Services Coordinator

Candidate will develop health services programs incorporating education, testing, outreach and community building with other community resources. Experience working with women's services and with women at high risk preferred.

Community Health Outreach Workers

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The Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, on behalf of the Sheriff, Police, Public Defender, District Attorney, Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments, is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from evaluation firms and grant writing/program planning firms or individuals to form two pools of "as needed" contractors. Eligible for-profit, non-profit, educational, and individual entities that have experience in grant writing, program planning, and evaluating criminal justice programs are encouraged to apply. Contracts will be effective July 1, 2000. RFQ's will be available January 5, 2000 at:

Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 496
San Francisco, CA 94102

RFQ applications will be due on Friday, February 11, 2000 by 5:00PM.

For more information call MCJC at 415-554-6560

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237333
The following person(s) are doing business as, Diamond In The Rough Films, 68 Agua Way, San Francisco, CA, 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark T. Schwab. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/04/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/04/2000.
JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237212
The following person(s) are doing business as, Peter Consello Fine Art, 143 Collingwood Street #A, San Francisco, CA, 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Peter William Consello. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/29/99.
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Notice of Availability of Annual Return

Persuant to Section 6104(d) of the internal Revenue Service Code, the annual return for fiscal year ended October 31, 1999, for Arlene Francis Foundation, apriate foundation located at 386 Elizabeth St., SFCA is available for inspection from 9am to 5pm, Monday thru Friday, upon request, within 180 days after this publication, made to the Foundation manger at: (415) 642-9420.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236718
The following person(s) are doing business as, Azteka Security, Azteka Security, 2406 24th Street, San Francisco, CA, 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rene Quinoz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 12/03/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/03/99.
JAN. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237525
The following person(s) are doing business as, CA Maintenance, 1659 30th Avenue, San Francisco, CA, 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Cindy H. Chen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/10/2000.
JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237340
The following person(s) are doing business as, TMO Design, 1620 Florida Street, San Francisco, CA, 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Teresa Marie Olson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/04/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/04/2000.
JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237410
The following person(s) are doing business as, V.K. Trading Co, 147 Beverly Street, San Francisco, CA, 94132. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tony C. Tran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/06/2000.
JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237360
The following person(s) are doing business as, Deja View Facade Maintenance, 149 Henry Street, San Francisco, CA, 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed James T. Weeg-President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/01/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/05/2000.
JAN. 13, 20, 27, FEB. 3, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237456
The following person(s) are doing business as, Style And Personality, 901 Jarboe Street Apt. #4, San Francisco, CA, 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Bjorngaard. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/07/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/07/2000.
JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237573
The following person(s) are doing business as, Big Fat Chihuahua Productions, 25 Glendale Street #10, San Francisco, CA, 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Robert Bedolla. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/12/2000.
JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237600
The following person(s) are doing business as, California Medicinal Resource Services, 2261 Market Street Suite #237 San Francisco, CA, 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Ronald F. Litter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1/12/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/13/2000.
JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237575
The following person(s) are doing business as, Rogue Communications, 4441 18th Street, San Francisco, CA, 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed James Coughenour. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1/15/00. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/17/2000.
JAN. 20, 27, FEB. 3, 10, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 237575
The following person(s) are doing business as, Style And Personality, 901 Jarboe Street Apt. #4, San Francisco, CA, 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Bjorngaard. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/07/2000. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 01/07/2000.
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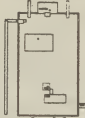
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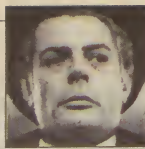
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page 40 - 41

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page 36



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 3 • 20 January 2000



Sweet Funk Sweet Soul

Songwriter Garrin Benfield

by Mark Mardon

It's a testament to the strength of their relationship that 26-year-old Garrin Benfield devotes almost every song on his debut album, *Living A Dream*, to his lover of eight years, Joshua Smith, and feels free to expose their marriage's nerves. Within the first three songs, the listener learns Benfield feels he indeed is living a dream, perfect in many respects, if often fraught with tension:

"I'm gonna fight if you tell me I'll only slow you down," he warns his husband in the album's title track, an uptempo rock song. He intimates that if somehow he's hurt, "I'll be moving on. You might hear from me if I can find the time."

The hurts inevitably come, however, and "it's not so easy" staying together. He asks of his husband: "Has the time blown you away?"

The answer is no, unless he means: "Have I blown your mind?" (Certainly yes, many times.) Rather, even in a city bursting with alluring distractions for gay men, time has drawn Smith and Benfield closer — two oppositely charged electrons revolving in ever-tightening circles around the nucleus of their love. Still, no matter how strong the attraction between them, each is fiercely independent, and both at times fly off into other orbits, other affairs.

Living A Dream is an exceptional first album, crafted by a gifted young guitarist, songwriter and performer who opens his soul and speaks frankly about the challenges of a gay relationship at the turn of the millennium. Benfield never refers directly to being gay, or mentions the gender of his nameless (in the lyrics) lover; he simply reveals parts of his story, and lets us know how he feels.

In a sense, Benfield's gayness is irrelevant; he has produced music of universal appeal, the sort that has made Rufus Wainwright so successful. He has lived out a dream with the first man he ever slept with (he met and fell in love with Smith during his freshman year at Hampshire College, in December 1991), and their quintessentially American love affair profoundly influences his lyrics and his whole being. Anyone could identify with his experiences.

Benfield easily ranks among the finest
page 45 ►

Up, Up And Away

Solanas' *Up Your Ass*
is set to music

by Richard Dodds

When Valerie Solanas gave Andy Warhol a copy of *Up Your Ass*, he found it so obscene that he worried it might be part of a government plot to entrap him. While there is nothing in the play that today could result in a raid — at least not in San Francisco — the belated premiere of *Up Your Ass* is missing some of its harder edges.

Not that any of Solanas' frank commentary on men and the women who don't need them has been censored, but a curious thing has happened on the long-lost play's way to the stage. It has become a karaoke musical, and this Top-40 treatment definitely sweetens the bile. Lines about "a mighty fine dick" and "a mighty fine ass" don't sound quite so rude when set to the music of "Tears on My Pillow."

There are times when the musical approach is both entertaining and dramatically effective, as in a vocal duel set to the sounds of "Me and Bobby McGee." Here, the confrontational dialogue finds its match in the familiar accelerating rhythms of the song, and unlike too many other examples in the show, the words don't get lost amid the amplification and pre-recorded accompaniment.

The decision to set much of Solanas' dialogue to music at least finds affirmation in the collection of

page 42 ►

Sara Moore (center), with
Rebecca Pezzullo
(kneeling), Eve
Chosak (left) and
Chantal Lucier (right)
in *Up Your Ass*



David Wilson

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

by Roberto Friedman and Ward Memorial

January's namesake, Roman deity Janus brought with him not only the winter rains, but two new casts for that SF Opera production of *La Bohème* the critics have all been grumbling about. We dashed over to the War Memorial last week in a driving rain, hoping that the show, too, wouldn't be all wet.

Now we all know the plot of *Bohème* (Rent ripped it off when it wasn't pirating **Sarah Schulman's** *People In Trouble*), and we all know how heterosexual it is. Still, Out There couldn't help seeing the opera anew through queer eyes. Take, for instance, the all-male scene in the squalid garret that's the home of impoverished poet **Rodolfo** (tenor **Zoran Todorovich**) in Act I. Since when do ostensibly straight, grown men roughhouse on the bed for an hour in a 4-buddy formation? The festivities on stage resembled

a pillow fight at the gay frat house — except that most stars of the opera stage are considerably bigger girls than most queens. Never mind *The Sopranos* — what about those wild 'n' crazy tenors?

The man-to-man action is reprised at the top of Act IV (can these boys ever keep their hands off each other?), until saucy **Musette** arrives (soprano **Nicolle Folland**) with the dying **Mimi** (soprano **Miriam Gauci**) to spoil all the fun. Color this *Bohème* lavender — and orange as in, Orange ya glad we don't write the opera reviews.



Antonio Banderas in the new boxing movie *Play It To The Bone*

Boxer shorts

In the new **Antonio Banderas/Woody Harrelson** movie *Play It To The Bone*, which finally opens Friday after its release was postponed last week, the juicy leading men play down-on-their-luck boxers who get a gig fighting each other in Vegas. Soon we learn Banderas' character's "tragic flaw"

— after losing in a humiliating way during his big break, a match at Madison Square Garden, he "tried being gay" for a year. You know, it was just a phase he was going through, as a big loser.

Woody, who plays a **Jesus** freak, freaks. "You're a fag?" "I'm not a fag," Antonio assures him, "I just tried it."

Very odd, no? During the film's climactic fight scene, Woody has visions of being cheered on by naked women with fake boobs (you can tell they're fake because they don't move), while Antonio has a vision of a naked man in his corner, egging him on to fight better. Curiouser and curiouser.

The film's peculiar use of homosexuality as a plot device, a sort of running fag gag, is not especially gay-friendly. In one scene, Banderas jokingly comes on to Woody, who flips out about it big-time. "It was horrible to watch, but in a fascinating way," says our spy at the screening. "Like a car crash."

The pay-off for appalled gay viewers comes right after the fight scene, when our boys are butt-naked in the locker-room shower together. Don't drop the soap, Woody! Did Antonio have a butt double for the shower scene? Our reviewer was too busy watching Woody's butt to notice. "It's fuller."

Wild life

Well you know, we get a lot of strange mail here at the Out There desk, but none stranger than the mash note we recently received from a hippopotamus on a rider mower saying, "Robi baby, I have a woody for you, dudel!" At least that was the caption a reader filled in for an illustration from the January 2000 issue of *Scientific American*. The drawing of the hippo on the mower was part of an article entitled, "When Good Hippos Go Bad," which convinced us that "the sex life of the hippo is far stranger than this incident illustrates."

What incident, you wonder? "Two tons of motivated meat," as SA calls a hippo in heat, "may do inadvertent damage when in pursuit of an amorous adventure. Thus did a tragic death recently befall one **Jean Ducuing**, the director of a zoo near Bordeaux. Ducuing was killed by a charging hippo that may have been seeking intimacy with, or dominance over, nearby farm equipment."

SA goes on to describe the "amazing finding of a species of leech, *Placobdelloides jaegerskiold-*

di, for which hippos are a secret love nest. In the researchers' own words: 'Evidence suggests that mating in *P. jaegerskioldi* is restricted to the rectum of the hippopotamus.' (Restricted being the operative word.) MITWWTK: More information than we wanted to know!

Too cute to care

The new Disney movie *Fantasia 2000* is ostensibly geared to children, just as the original film was supposed to be a youngster's introduction to classical music. But the 6:30 p.m.

screening last week at the IMAX Theater in the Sony Metreon mall was wall-to-wall San Francisco adults, if you know what we mean. Yes, it's true what you've heard, conductor **James Levine** does solemnly intone, "And now, *Pomp and Circumstance*, with **Donald Duck**." And while perhaps **Beethoven's** Fifth would have remained a timeless classic without a flock of c-u-ute butterflies flapping in time with the rhythm (same with **Respighi's** *Pines of Rome* and a family of c-u-ute whales), this *Fantasia* did win us over with its vision of the finale of **Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals** as the musical answer to the



Out There

the drink.

No, dear, not all movies at IMAX are 3-D, but even plain old 2-D animation is awe-inspiring at that scale. Out "IMAX host" **Brett** introduced a preview for an upcoming feature from "Circus de la Soul" — er, that's **Cirque du Soleil, Journey of Man**, which will be in 3-D. Then it was on to the adorable-eyed creatures, cavorting to the strains of great music. It's a filmgoing experience you might well enjoy in the right state of consciousness — we mean for those of us who aren't already living in *Fantasia 2000* 24/7.

Royal rollicking fun

National Enquirer TV reports that the **Queen of England** is most upset at her daughter-in-law **Sophie Rhys-Jones**, the former publicist, who is apparently keeping a few accounts on, and working from home. As if being married to bonny **Prince Edward** weren't full-time job enough? Apparently, after not much of a honeymoon, the newlyweds are keeping separate apartments — or, in this case, separate palaces. But then, Sophie knew what she was getting into when she married a prince in line to be queen.

And after all, the second-most-popular game we played as children was "House."

You've got a lifestyle!

We found news of the launch of a gay "lifestyle magazine" in Japan on *The Japan Times* website. **Toh Ogura** started *Fabulous* in November after five years as a supervisor of a mainly pornographic gay magazine. He sees his new magazine as "a kind of *Esquire* for gay males." Sounds great, except no one has read *Esquire* in about 30 years.

"I have long waited for a magazine like *Fabulous* that satisfies my cultural appetite, which is unavoidably under the influence of my sexual orientation as a gay," said a 26-year-old reader from Sapporo.

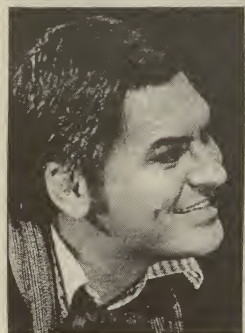
The *Times* assures us that, "although the magazine's articles are comparable to mainstream lifestyle or fashion magazines, its ads still stand out; most pitch sexual and pornographic services or commodities." Well, that's a relief.

Andy corner

Out There readers know that in our off hours, we read memoirs and pop bon bons, and we are still working our way through the new paperback of **Bob Colacello's Holy Terror** (Cooper Square Press). What's great about the "Life with **Warhol**" account is that the bold-face names keep coming, and Colacello mostly doesn't even bother with last names:

"**Andy** always liked **Liza**, but he loved **Lorna**. He felt more comfortable with her just as he was chummier with **Bianca** than with **Mick**, or **Victor Hugo** than **Halston**. Lorna held another attraction for Andy: She was one hell of a talker, a veritable fountain of gossip... 'Bianca told me the best dish: **Barbra Streisand** asked her agent, **Sue Mengers**, for two tickets to the Stones concert and Bianca got them, and then Barbra never showed up, never called, never wrote a note of apology — can you believe it?' Sadly, only too well, Bianca.

Department of Oops: Due to a copyfitting glitch in the Dec. 16 Out There **Sylvester** item, the following e-mail address was inadvertently printed with a hyphen in it — yikes! To help out the documentary in progress, zap those Sylvester reminiscences, pics and offers of financial support to: jayboy@bway.net. ▼



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Love and the single scholar

ACT does Stoppard's 'Invention of Love'

by Richard Dodds

The heart of Tom Stoppard's *The Invention of Love* is simple enough — simplistic, even — but it is embedded deep in a mud slide of erudition.

Life is short, so make the most of it, Stoppard has his central character announce late in a speech that begins with a discussion of comma placement in an ancient Roman poem. And so it goes in the three-hour play set against the backdrop of 19th-cen-

tury Oxford, where useless knowledge is exalted.

ACT is presenting the American premiere of the 1997 play, a play that did not make the usual London-to-Broadway journey of *Arcadia*, *The Real Thing*, *Travesties*, and other Stoppard successes. But Carey Perloff, ACT's artistic director and director of this classy production, lobbied for the play, its commercial liabilities be damned, and it turns out most of the good seats at the Geary Theater were sold out before opening night.

Even so, you might consider a

disco nap before venturing to *The Invention of Love*. It is not a play that rewards flaccid attention, not that a little lie-down will suddenly let you understand Latin. This is a play in which verb tense provides a punchline.

To be fair, there are numerous passages and exchanges that are easily accessible, both in their humor and in their pathos. But even if Stoppard lays it on a bit thick, can you expect anything other than a scholarly context for the story of a celebrated scholar?

That scholar is A.E. Housman, whom we first see at age 77 in the

page 34 ►



Jason Butler Harner as Young Housman, Garret Dillahunt as Jackson

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Paradise in San Jose?

'Children of Eden' is a Biblical pageant

by Richard Dodds

How many times have you heard that a musical is missing a good book to go with its tuneless score? Songwriter Stephen Schwartz solved that problem by looking to the Good Book.

Children of Eden is an epic-sized musical that uses the stories of Adam and Eve and Noah and his Ark to explore intimate family relationships in a Biblical context. There is enough reverence that believers won't be offended, but for those who find more fable than fact in the Old Testament, the theology is no more taxing than in, say, *The Lion King*.

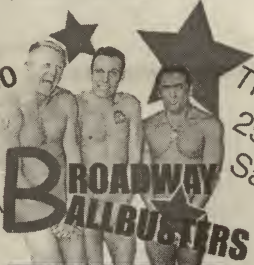
In fact, *Children of Eden* often resembles *The Lion King*, though it predates Disney's stage musical by several years. First staged in London in 1991 to disappointing results, a revised version found success in 1997 at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey, and it's that version that opened last week at San Jose Center for the Performing Arts.



The procession of the animals in *Children of Eden*

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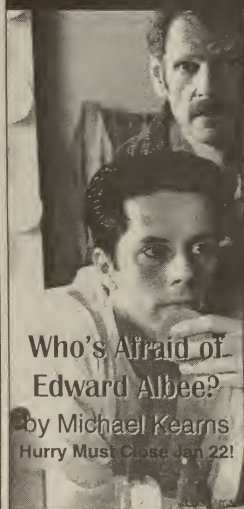


A man-bashing musical revue

Featuring Eric Brizee, Gary Wayne Farris and Jorge Hernandez
Directed by Allen Sawyer and John Karr Musical Direction by Alan Fricke

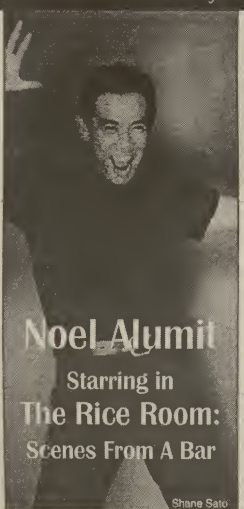
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American Musical Theatre of San Jose has also rented the sets, props and costumes from the Paper Mill production, and the effect on the enormous San Jose stage can be stunning. Director Dianna Shuster has pulled together a cast of more than 60 men, women, and children, and when they are decked in one of several sets of finery amid an Eden lavishly suggested, the results feel grander than you have any right to expect in San Jose.

The musical itself is an agreeable spectacle that, especially in the first act, finds fresh drama and some comedy in its revisionist reading of the Bible. John Caird's libretto doesn't sustain the same interest in the second act, when the focus moves from Adam and Eve to Noah and his family, though the latter act does feature a wonderful tableau as the animals arrive for their voyage.

Songwriter Schwartz helped popularize a pop-rock sound on Broadway in *Godspell* and *Pippin*, and he mines similar territory here. It may not be the novelty that it once was, but Schwartz certainly knows how to create agreeable anthems with substantial melodic hooks.

The huge cast is a mix of local and imported talent that knows

next page ►



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THEATRE

Putting on a queer spin

'Broadway Ballbusters' adapts show tunes

by Richard Dodds

With a reference to Crisco here and to Guerneville there, the hetero show tunes highlighted in *Broadway Ballbusters* adapt quite nicely to a homo world.

This new compilation is subtitled "a man-bashing musical revue," but that suggests a rationale more potent than what comes across in Theatre Rhino's Studio. This 90-minute jukebox is really about three personable guys with good voices singing songs that definitely were not originally written for gay men.

For the dedicated show queen, Eric Brizee and Alan Fricke's creation should be lots of fun as it mines some lesser-known musical choices. But even those whose cast-album collection stops at *A Chorus Line* should find musical pleasure in the program of rarities, obscurities, and a couple of familiar choices.

The very loose structure finds the three performers in their dressing room, needing little excuse to break into song. Even less excuse is offered in the second act, when the performers are doing their show within the show.

Lyrics do get changed here and there, usually to felicitous effect, but this is not a parody show like *Dirty Little Show Tunes*. Here,



Alan Fricke, Eric Brizee, Jorge Hernandez, and Gary Wayne Farris

most of the songs convey their original intent, though inevitably the gender reassignment puts a different spin on man-hungry songs like "I Can Cook, Too" from *On the Town*, "Bring on the Men" from *Jekyll & Hyde*, and "Everybody's Girl" from *Steel Pier*.

Some of the songs are sung straight, so to speak, with Jorge Hernandez's smooth voice scoring on "Times Like This" from *Lucky Stiff*, Eric Brizee lending his husky voice to "No Man Is Worth It" from *Dance a Little Closer*, and Gary Wayne Farris using his Broadway belt on "Goodbye Emil" from *Romance Romance*.

But mostly the threesome sings together, creating agreeable harmonies under Alan Fricke's musical direction. Directors F. Allen Sawyer and John Karr have brought their considerable experience to the playful production, which hardly takes a beat between songs. Perhaps two or three of the numbers don't quite cut it, but everything moves along with such good-natured alacrity that you hardly notice. ▼

Broadway Ballbusters will run through Feb. 5 in the Studio at Theatre Rhino. Tickets are \$14-\$15. Call 861-5079.

Children of Eden

◀ previous page

what needs to be done. Adrian Zmed, a veteran of the Paper Mill Playhouse cast, plays Adam and Noah with appealing remnants of the gruff boyishness of his early TV and movie career. Zmed, still showing off his biceps, also has muscle in his voice.

LaTonya Holmes, double cast as Eve and Mama Noah, gets her

best showcase in the Eden scenes, where she is a character whose charming ditziness disguises a quest for knowledge. Timothy Gulan and Brent St. Clair offer strong performances as, respectively, the troublesome son and the good son. As God, John Huntington rises to the challenge of a seemingly impossible role, creating an accessible character whose divinity does not obviate emotional needs.

In this variation on the Bible,

God becomes an overprotective father who wants his children to stay innocent and dependent forever. It is God who has to let go, but not without a fight. What family doesn't have its ups and downs? ▼

Children of Eden will run at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts through Jan. 30. Tickets are \$40-\$55. Call (888) 455-SHOW.

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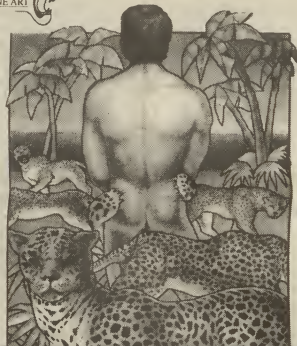
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'The Stuff that Dreams Are Made Of:
The Films of Marcello Mastroianni'

by Will Shank

Since his death in 1996, the richness of the legacy of actor Marcello Mastroianni has become ever more evident. Among the 170 films that he appeared in, the Castro Theatre and the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley are screening 22 of his best. The 1997 documentary *Marcello Mastroianni: I Remember, Yes I Remember*, made by his companion Anna Maria Tatò, opens the festival at the PFA on January 21 and is repeated at the Castro on the January 23. Ms. Tatò also selected the films included in this retrospective.

Although he is best known as the alter ego of Federico Fellini in the '60s icons *La Dolce Vita* and *8-1/2*, the actor did some of his best work for other directors. (Both of those films are included in the festival.) If you are new to the work of the eternally handsome and seductive Mastroianni, or if you want to re-live some of your favorite cinematic moments of 20th-century Italian cinema, check out some of these offerings. Ironically, as one critic has noted, although he defined the "Latin lover" cliché, Mastroianni did not smolder, nor did he pounce; his style consisted more of a "sleepy-eyed look and a promise."

A few highlights follow. Dates given are Castro Theatre screenings.

Divorce-Italian Style, 1962
(1/22, 2/3)

Under the masterful direction of Pietro Germi, Mastroianni plays one of his first completely amoral characters, the Sicilian dilettante Ferdinando Cefalù, whose disdain for his nagging, mustachioed wife (Daniela Rocca) is exceeded only by his lust

for a nymphet cousin (Stefania Sandrelli). The smirking joke of the title is that there is no divorce in Roman Catholic 1960s Italy, so the only alternative — obviously! — is murder. The fantasies staged by Germi about how Cefalù will do away with the shrew are small masterpieces of black comedy, and completely misogynist, of course. But for those who can overcome the political incorrectness of the theme, the rewards are great. Mastroianni is a selfish, slicked-down villain who pushes his wife into the arms of another man, after much auditioning of the perfect patsy. In macho Sicily, finding oneself *cornuto* is the greatest affront to one's manhood, and Cefalù plays on the sympathy of the entire town while he plots his wife's murder. This inspired bit of theater is a capsule view of the last bastion of medieval Mediterranean chauvinism, which does not go without its own punishment. The hilarious screenplay won an Oscar.

Marriage Italian Style, 1964
(1/29, 2/2)

Not exactly a sequel to *Divorce-Italian Style*, this Vittorio De Sica film could nevertheless be viewed as a companion piece to the other dark comedy. Here, too, the title carries significant irony, as it defines a family institution by presenting the story of a union created through deception and manipulation. De Sica based his film on the 1940s story of *Filumena Marturano* by Eduardo de Filippo, and Sophia Loren in her prime is the true star of *Marriage* as the hooker who connives to get a wedding ring from her longtime lover (Mastroianni) by letting him know that one of her three sons is also his. Marcello is once again a selfish brute, amorous and cagey, then baffled and touched by the

situation in which he finds himself. The warring, loving couple were the perfect match for each other in this De Sica *tour de force*, and in its companion piece (unfortunately not included in this festival), *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* (1964), in which the duo appear as three different sets of embattled Italian lovers.

A Special Day, 1977
(1/22, 2/2)

If the De Sica sex comedies allowed Sophia and Marcello to romp through a series of bedroom farces, this intense drama shows both actors at the other end of the spectrum of their acting abilities. Director Ettore Scola not only casts Mastroianni against type as Gabriele, a buttoned-down homosexual, but he also achieves the impossible: getting Loren to appear downright plain as Antonietta, a downtrodden mother of six who is the complete opposite of her joyful earth-mother types of the '60s. Essentially a two-character play, *Una Giornata Particolare* places together two neighbors with nothing in common in a deserted Rome apartment house on a day in 1938 when Hitler comes to town to meet with Mussolini. After "meeting cute" (her pet bird escapes through a window to land on his windowsill), the unlikely couple come to discover their common ground. Although it includes the inevitable seduction scene between the straight woman and the gay man, the screenplay is thoughtful and touching. And avoiding gay clichés, Mastroianni turns in one of his most restrained and affecting performances as a man quietly at the end of his rope.

Dark Eyes, 1987
(1/28)

Toward the end of his career, Mastroianni took on character



Marcello Mastroianni: "a sleepy-eyed look and a promise."

roles like this rich part as Romano, an aging Italian roué looking back on a colorful past in Russia. Based on several short stories by Anton Chekhov and directed by Soviet filmmaker Nikita Mikhalkov, *Dark Eyes* is a fascinating combination of two cultures, and the actor slides comfortably back and forth between them.

In tableaux of surreal sets such *fin de siècle* health spas which resemble the best of Fellini's productions, Mastroianni plays out once again a variation on the drama of love and deception. The amorality of his affable and seductive character is more carefully masked here than in his early roles. His promising young archi-

text falls prey to a life of decadent ennui thanks to the fortune of his Italian wife (Silvana Mangano), whom he leaves for a beautiful young Russian woman (Elena Sofia Ronova). In a richly textured, multilayered screenplay, Mastroianni is both hateful and heart-breaking while the things that are important to him one by one escape him. ▼

The Stuff that Dreams Are Made Of: The Films of Marcello Mastroianni plays the Castro Theatre January 21-February 3. For information on the Berkeley screenings, call (510) 642-1124.

Invention of Love

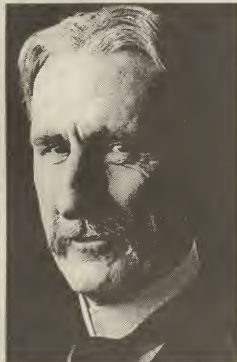
◀ page 32

stiff-and-proper guise of actor James Cromwell as he is being ferried across the River Styx. He is newly dead, and as his final voyage continues, a flood of memories overwhelms him. Jason Butler Harner takes over as the young Housman, an Oxford prodigy who tries to find context in his studies for his attraction for athletic classmate Moses Jackson.

Stoppard provides a counterpoint to Housman's self-repression in Oscar Wilde, who briefly shared the Oxford campus with Housman, but who found overt expression for his core feelings. It of course destroyed him, but in an imagined meeting, Wilde tells Housman, "Better a fallen rocket than never a burst of light."

This is the recently deceased Housman conversing with his memories, and Cromwell, remembered as the taciturn farmer in the movie *Babe*, gets several big laughs with his arch delivery. Cromwell creates an imposing figure as the elder Housman, but the character's sadness at a life misdirected does not fully emerge in Cromwell's steely performance.

As the young Housman, Harner plays the first act in the same nerdy key, but it makes more sense in contrast to his second-act self, when his disappointments and frustrations begin to give an edge to his persona. Marco Baricelli provides a memorable impression of Wilde, and other performers who pierce the general competence of the large cast include Steven Anthony Jones as the oarsman on the River Styx, Ken Ruta as a politician and journal-



James Cromwell as Housman

ist, and Garret Dillahunt as the fetching Moses Jackson.

Matthew Boston also has a couple of nice scenes as a Housman colleague who can acknowledge that he prefers the company of men, as Stoppard conjectures on the beginnings of homosexuality as a group with an identity. He reports to a Housman on a secret society to which he belongs.

"Actually, it's more of a discussion group," he says. "We discuss what we should call ourselves. 'Homosexual' has been suggested. ... We aren't anything till there is a word for it."

Housman reacts with predictable scholarly detachment. "Homosexuals? Who is responsible for this barbarity? ... It's half Greek and half Latin!" ▼

The Invention of Love will run at the Geary Theatre through Feb. 13. Tickets are \$14-\$55. Call 749-2228.

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DANCE & MUSIC

Good things come in small companies

Diablo Ballet at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley

by Aimée Ts'ao

Last Saturday night, Diablo Ballet, which makes its home in Walnut Creek, appeared at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley for its millennium kick-off performance, and proved yet again that a small company can offer dancing that matches or surpasses that of larger, more established troupes. Every single dancer (nine of the company's twelve appearing on this program) is a unique and recognizable presence on stage, shaping his or her role and exploring the movement in a very personal way which engages the audience.

Diablo Ballet gave the West Coast premiere of Val Caniparoli's *Pas de Deux* from the first act of his full-length *Lady of the Camellias*, based on the novel and play of Alexander Dumas fils. Tina Kay Bohnstedt and Kyongho Kim, as Marguerite and Armand, are sensitively matched. Kim's passionate yet effortless partnering, even in the face of some daunting maneuvers, and Bohnstedt's expressive fluidity and suppleness create a truly believable pair of lovers. I only wish the choreography matched the timbre of their dancing. The music, excerpts from Chopin's Piano Concerto in E minor, is both an asset and a liability. While this composer evokes both the time period of the story and its romanticism, the choice seems almost cliché. Then, Caniparoli puts far too many steps in each phrase. The rushing, which

is possibly meant to denote the torrent of emotion, works against itself. Love needs to linger, too. And Marguerite's consumptive lungs would never have allowed her to be so athletic. This hale and hearty affect suddenly disappears toward the end, when she begins to cough, but by then it is too late to save any credibility. Still, the audience loves it, and Bohnstedt and Kim deserve to be lauded and applauded.

The program opened with Associate Artistic Director Nikolai Kabaniaev's *The Puzzle*, which I chose as one of the best pieces of 1999. I am surprised to see that the dancers have developed their parts even more since September. Dancing in a new ballet is a bit like breaking in a new pair of shoes. You have to dance it a while before you are completely comfortable in it. Kabaniaev's choreography, a seamless joining of exaggerated gesture, traditional and original steps, is pushed yet further by the cast, revealing more nuances. Kelly Teo is still a magnetic presence, Karyn Lee Connell, Corinne Jonas and Viktor Kabaniaev know how to play up the comedy and tone it down appropriately, while Erika Johnson finds the lyrical threads in a perplexing world.

Villella vehicle

Balanchine's *Tarantella Pas de Deux* is not one of his great works. The "cute" sexiness is dated and has a '60s-ness about it. The spirited music by Louis Moreau Gottschalk seems to carry the

bulk of the artistic load, though Karyn Lee Connell and Viktor Kabaniaev valiantly try to make something of it as well. Created as a vehicle for Patricia MacBride and Edward Villella of New York City Ballet, it may be a piece that needs their special chemistry to really work. Alas, they are both long retired.

Closing the evening is *They've Lost Their Footing* by KT Nelson of ODC/San Francisco, definitely a crowd-pleasing, exuberant and wacky romp for nine dancers. I still enjoy it, though structurally I find the climax of the composition comes too far before the end of the piece. The last, slower movement could be better placed earlier on or left out completely. The music by Hoven Drogen provides a steady backdrop for the dancing, which seems tied to it a bit too firmly, though Kelly Teo manages to impose his own musicality occasionally to break the hold.

Diablo Ballet is also committed to using live music whenever possible, and its own Diablo Ballet Orchestra, under the baton of Asher Raboy, does an excellent job. Roy Bogas, as piano soloist for the Chopin and Gottschalk, added immensely to both pieces, moving from romantic to rhythmically agile without a hitch.

Rumor has it that Diablo Ballet may be performing in San Francisco in the fall, but I recommend seeing them in March at the Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. It's worth the trip; and if not, it's also worth the wait. ▼



Erika Johnson in Nikolai Kabaniaev's *The Puzzle*

Tale of two conductors

SF Symphony's Alasdair Neale and MTT

by Philip Campbell

Musicians can be a fickle lot at times — they are performers, after all — but the players of the San Francisco Symphony are usually an exception to the rule. Nevertheless, recent weeks at Davies Hall have proven even these dedicated professionals can respond in very different ways to the leadership of very different conductors.

Alasdair Neale has been SFS Associate Conductor since 1992 and leader of the SFS Youth Orchestra for eleven years, so his credentials are in order, and his attractive and accomplished presence is felt positively throughout the entire organization. He has covered for an ailing Michael Tilson Thomas on tour and currently leads two weeks of subscription performances each season.

Young violinist (19) Tamaki Kawakubo has appeared with the SFS in performances of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto before (6 years ago), and she is building a track record with guest shots in Los Angeles, Detroit and Baltimore. She has also recently studied under the legendary Dorothy Delay, and that should be imprudent enough. So why did her partnership with Alasdair Neale (again with the Tchaikovsky concerto) have such a Brand X feeling to it?

The evening began well enough,



Conductor Alasdair Neale

with a carefully wrought performance of Aaron Jay Kernis's *Musica celestis* in its SFS debut. Neale has recorded works by Kernis, which have impressed local audiences with their particularly pretty blend of melody and minimalism. The shorter pieces don't have much meat on their bones, but they make for an agreeable listen and a good way to start a concert.

Kawakubo appeared next, in a lovely scarlet gown, poised and all grown up, and ready to dazzle us with her virtuosity. Dazzle us she did. We are witnessing an unfortunate trend with all these instrumental wunderkinds, however. They are very young, very talented, and too often driven into a brutally competitive market be-

fore they can really develop a personal style. Note-perfect renditions and startling displays of strength can impress us to a point, but when the score at hand is a familiar favorite like the Tchaikovsky, there is a genuine need for a mature artist whose experience might allow for some new insights. Isaac Stern, Nathan Milstein, Heifetz, even Kennedy (when he was still Nigel) have all given highly personal renditions that prove you need a little mileage to custom-feel the road.

The orchestra gave good support, and Alasdair Neale framed Kawakubo's studied technique sympathetically, but everyone seemed only to be going through the motions, and that is not what the umpteenth programming of the Tchaikovsky Concerto needs.

The second half of the concert was given over to Ralph (pronounce it Rafe) Vaughn Williams' beautiful *A London Symphony* (No. 2). The composer insisted that it should be heard as "pure" music, although there is a programmatic subtext. In the best performances, the composer's intentions are clear. With Neale on the podium, though, this atmospheric impression of a great city became an episodic spin through a colorful travelogue. No real harm done, since the results were, by turns, moody and exciting. What was lost was a sense of symphonic cohesion.

The musicians sprang to attention. **page 48 ►**

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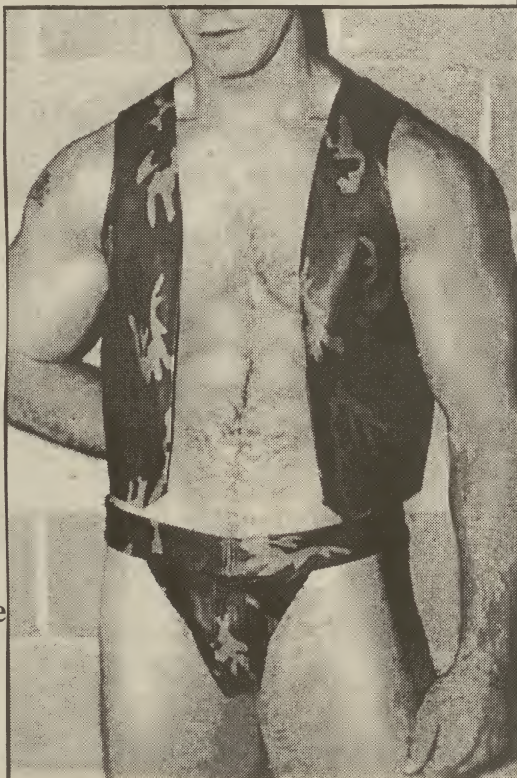
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Snapping away with Arthur Tress

His eye on the 'Male of the Species'

by Brandon Judell

After reading Arthur Tress' essay on his profession in his latest book, *Male of the Species* (FotoFactory Press), you just might never finger a roll of film in exactly the same way. "The camera's orifice wants to retain the slippery memories that struggle to escape and to be forgotten. It is like the head hunters of Borneo who absorb the masculine potency of their enemies by consuming their life sap, thereby making them subject to their will. The act of photography feeds upon the radiant luminescence and tumescence of the world and renders them chemically digestible within the dark caverns of the camera's body. It is by no evolutionary accident that our eyes and mouths are but inches apart."

If you think that might be an eccentric way of describing the act of placing imagery on Kodak film, you are probably not familiar with Mr. Tress and his four decades of output. Unlike such trendy, sterile snapshots like Tom Bianchi, whose claim to fame is based more on the stunning models he gets to pose for him than for his craftsmanship, Tress' shots are lit-

tle psychological scenarios that comment on gay desire, relationships, and survival.

Photography critic Allen Elenzweig, who devoted a chapter to Tress in his landmark study *The Homoerotic Photograph*, agreed to stop preparing brunch

lives in San Francisco, and that's one of the reasons I moved out to the West. I've lived in San Francisco on and off. I think it's a city of fantasy. The architecture. The fog rolling in. It's a city that's very ephemeral in some ways. The earthquakes," he says.

"I love things that are very hybrid, and the gay life there is so extreme and into itself that it's becoming a fascinating subculture. Actually, my [former] boyfriend was a student at San Francisco State, so a lot of the pictures in the new book are from San Francisco."

"There are three pictures of my boyfriend in *Male of the Species*. He's a surfer, which is one of the advantages of California. But he's also a good photographer. His work was very loose and kind of like street

photography and spontaneous. So we would go out and shoot the same models together, and his looseness and spontaneity affected my style of working. That was one of the nice things about a relationship. I think having to deal with another person's problems and talking about them opened me up emotionally a little. Because of him, my pictures became a little more tender and humane and sympathetic."

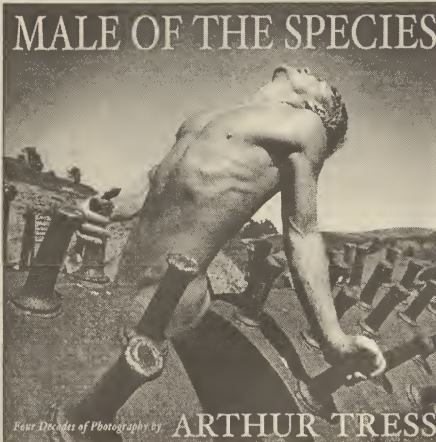
Taking a deep breath, he quickly adds, "But now I'm single and enjoying it."

Tress is also enjoying the fact that today, many art critics and museum curators are less homophobic and more accepting of the male nude as a legitimate subject for the artist. In fact, several of his shots have just been purchased by the Whitney Museum in New York. That didn't happen back in the '70s, when his work was labeled by some as mere pornography.

"Please let it be known," Mr. Tress laughs, "that I don't feel there's anything wrong with art as pornography. As erotic art. I mean art which can be used for elation of the senses of all kinds. It has been an uphill battle in American and European culture to get the male nude accepted, and it's not just being my challenge. The work's gradually gotten to a larger acceptance, but it's amazing that it still makes people uncomfortable. The male nude has been done throughout the history of photography, but it's been filed away in the back rooms of different museums."

"It is interesting that my work has not been accepted by the Museum of Modern Art or the Metropolitan Museum of Art, because you have curators who want straight photography. They're uncomfortable with the male nude. This has actually limited my audience, because the male nude has been ghettoized."

A step in the right direction, besides the one by the Whitney, will be taken by the Corcoran Gallery, which will soon hold a major ret-



the other day to note, "Arthur deals with gay archetypes and the collective unconscious of the gay community. His work captures our yearnings, our fears, our anxieties, our hidden secrets. It must also be noted that Tress deserves recognition for having explored gay subcultural themes longer than most. There are very few people whose careers go back as far as his in this area."

Art historian Emmanuel Cooper agrees in his take on the subject, *Fully Exposed*. After praising the output of Robert Mapplethorpe, Cooper adds that also "notable is the work of Arthur Tress, whose powerful images of sexual desire often embody elements of surrealism."

Some of Tress' more famous early shots, often taken on New York City's piers in the '70s, include a naked man whose penis is hanging between the legs of a life-size cutout of Superman; a hard-hatted stud holding a giant cardboard drill that's about to pound into the gaping mouth of a submissive nude gent on his knees; and a gaggle of nudes either encased in plastic bags or tied to the burnt-out infrastructure of decimated buildings.

Tress' more recent imagery—not including his more commercial work, which has appeared in such magazines as *Life* and *Geo*, plus on the covers of the novels of such authors as Patricia Highsmith—probe gay life more gently. His camera is now focused on unclothed men standing on kitchen counters, entwined with plants, holding TV antennas, or being lovingly attacked by neckties. There are also shots of young boys pondering their newly-discovered maleness.

Wild, wild West

Tress, in an interview from his Southern California home, notes that the transformation in his work has come about, in various degrees, from aging, moving to the West Coast, and having had a San Franciscan lover. "My sister

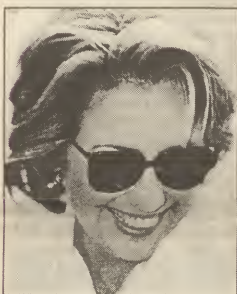
TELEVISION

The Castratis

by Victoria A. Brownworth

While the cable queens were hovering over their antipasti waiting for *The Sopranos* to return, we were watching ball-busting TV on the networks. We love TV. Without TV, we would have missed the masti-cating close-ups of the Republicans eating their own, John Rocker exposing his xenophobia *cum* homophobia on ESPN while he was *supposed* to be apologizing, the fagulous Barney Frank politely debating a retired Admiral on *Meet the Press*, Hillary outclassing David Letterman, the before-and-after plastic surgery shots of Linda Tripp (we haven't seen anything quite so grisly since they released the photos of Jayne Mansfield's fatal accident *apres* her decapitation) and Monica claiming once again she doesn't swallow — this time for Jennie Craig.

Yes, the new year is shaping up nicely (which is more than we can say for Monica; we think that 31 pounds she claims to have lost was really the fat they sucked out of Tripp's face). Our fave moment of the week of course was Hillary doing Letterman (we think she



Hillary Clinton, so soignée

should sub for Dave while he recovers from his quintuple bypass surgery; ratings were the highest in three years the night she was on; two days later, Dave's getting his heart rewired — you do the math). Looking *soignée* (it took eight years, but she's finally got a really good 'do) in black and hot pink, and acting totally chilled, she matched Letterman jab for jab, passed his quiz on New York State and reeled off her own Top Ten list of reasons why she finally came on the show after months of prodding. (We liked: "If Dan Quayle could do it, how hard could it be?")

Insiders say Hillary was dancing in her seat during commercial breaks she was so jazzed. Of course, to truly match Rudy Giuliani, she'd have to appear in drag on *Saturday Night Live*, but it's early days yet.

Stunned senseless

Our second favorite moment of the week occurred when Alan Keyes got rabid during the Republican debate. Stunned by the idea that anyone right of center would think gays in the military was a good idea, Keyes responded (out of turn, we might add) to a uh, query about whether an executive order would be in order. *No way, Mary.*

Keyes went on for a full three minutes — well over the allotted time even if it *had* been his turn to answer. Does no one understand what conservative means? thundered Keyes. He followed that rhetorical intro with a declaration that he would outlaw gays in the military because homosexuality

was a crime against nature. (These guys are so clueless — homosexuality is already against the rules. Hello — don't ask, don't tell.) He stopped short of saying God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve, but that may simply have been because he didn't want to get into a mincing match with Mister Forbes. All in all, it was pretty dramatic — he managed to make the anti-gay statements of Baby Bush and John "I'm not out of control" McCain look mild by comparison.

Hey, remember when blacks were Democrats because Republicans are the party of rich white guys and Democrats are the populist party? Guess what — Republicans *still* are rich white guys (look at who's running). Someone ought to tell Keyes he's playing the fall guy.

The Log Cabinettes are going to have a tough time endorsing a Republican in this race — all these guys really *hate* queers. In fact, they seem to be getting their material from John Rocker. Meanwhile, Mr. (off his) Rocker "apologized" on ESPN for his remarks to *Sports Illustrated*. Looking like the redneck poster boy he is, Rocker made it sound like he'd been caught off guard by the *SI* reporter and explained that one little off-the-cuff remark does not a racist make. (Did he read what he said? *Can he read?*) The words "I'm sorry" never made it out of his mouth, and what he did say got spit out like so much Skoal. And he seems to have forgotten the homophobic statements altogether, because no acknowledgment was forthcoming about those.

Saturday Night Live really ripped Rocker last week, which dovetailed nicely with a few queer skits. We don't think it's our imagination that this show is getting queerer and queerer. In one skit, Will Ferrell plays a prisoner anxious about his status with his cellmate. "I am still your bitch, aren't I?" he queries. Oooh baby. Pass the lube.

Wet look

Meanwhile on CBS at the same time as *SNL*, Howard Stern is still trying to get girls to kiss girls on his show because that's the only way, short of Viagra, that his audience can get it up. This week found two blonde Penthouse types kissing on the lips — one was topless, the other bikini-clad. Now, we enjoy seeing girls kissing as much as the next dyke, but we really hate this lesbian exploitation *merde*. It is soooo '70s (sort of like Howard's hair — even Michael Bolton finally shed the goldilocks, Howie). Why is this show still on the air? Isn't there a worthy infomercial to fill that time slot? Where is Ron Popile when you need him?

Speaking of commercials, *SNL* did a smutty take-off (no pun intended — really) on Monica's ad campaign which we found highly amusing. Molly Shannon, who has done Monica better than Monica for the past two years, explained how on Jennie Craig you can eat what you want and still lose weight. She proceeded around a table filled with prepared dishes — from vegetables and fruits to meats and desserts — all in the shape of male genitalia. Yummy.

Speaking of delicacies, we hear tell Ainsley Harriot *isn't* queer, but you can't convince us. This Lon-

don pouf's morning show debuted this week. It makes *The View* look like *Cellblock H*, it's so prissy. Harriot, for those who don't watch PBS, had a Brit-com called *Chef*. A handsome bald black queen who cooks (think RuPaul in boy drag with a British accent), he has been mincing and dicing with the best of them on daytime.

Highly recommended, especially for those missing Julia Child.

Yes, queers are busting out all over the networks, though NBC is still packing the queerest content, and we don't just mean *Will & Grace* and *Frasier*, though both episodes this week were among their best ever for golden showers (yes, pants pissing) hilarity.

But on the serious side, *ER* has had queer storylines two weeks running, first with a young lesbian whose parents sent her to one of those ex-gay deprogramming units, second with a male couple involved in domestic violence. We kind of went off this show after pretty boy George Clooney left, followed by Gloria Reuben (taking her AIDS storyline with her), but it's winning us back this season. The luscious Alex Kingston makes our heart go pit-a-pat, and the new boy on the block, Mr. Bosnia, is a nice drink of water also. The introduction of queer stories on a consistent basis — particularly material that is both timely and

politic — makes this Emmy-winner worth watching anew.

We also like the counterpoint manner in which these tales play out. Ming-Na covers for the young lesbian but gets slammed by Laura Innes, *ER* Chiefess, for lying about the patient's status. Meanwhile, Noah Wylie (much rumored about in real life) gives an impassioned speech about freedom of sexual expression and how a person's innate nature can't be changed.

In the DV segment, Anthony Edwards tries to get help for the troubled couple and urges the battered spouse to leave his boyfriend. Both men are attractive and reasonably butch, so no typecasting of nellie and stevedore. Edwards has done turns in queer storylines before, and his character (the inimitable Dr. Green) takes a sensitive but strong stance each time. The DV tale ends unpleasantly — just like real life. Very strong stuff.

Order up

Also strong on NBC, the *Law & Order* shows. *Lo-O* did a variation on a Columbine theme last week with gay taunting at its center. Then *Special Victims Unit* handled the murder of a gay man — who happened to be the son of a Falwellian father who tried to deprogram the 21-year-old. The story was pure *Lo-O*, more twists and turns than Pacific Coast Highway. And talk about gay positive — a gay cop, gay assemblyman, gay, gay, gay. The squad proves thoroughly victim-oriented as ever, despite the sexual ori-

entation of "the vic" (cop talk). Each squad member gives a little speech at some point in the episode about the impossibility of altering someone's sexual orientation. But we especially liked Richard Belzer laying into the Falwellian's amanuensis with a little riff about Newt Gingrich ditching his dying wife. Anyone who's ever heard Belzer's stand-up or seen him on a talk show knows this was probably ad-libbed and the writers left it in.

A final tidbit from ABC: *20/20* (we can't remember if it was up-town or downtown) did a segment on Janis Joplin last week that "revealed" the extent of her lesbian side (she was thoroughly bisexual). Her former girlfriend and heroin buddy Peggy Casserta talked about their relationship rather sweetly and candidly. Kris Kristofferson also said some sweet things about the First Lady of rock, who bedded him post-Rhodes and pre-fame. Casserta talked online on ABC's news line after the show. Bittersweet nostalgia for children of the '60s. Watching clips of Janis sing still tears a little piece of one's heart.

Finally, our quote of the week came from Bill Maher on *Politically Incorrect*. Talking about the recent makeovers and/or plastic surgeries of Monica, Linda and Paula Jones, Maher noted, "If it weren't for Bill Clinton, all these women would be fat and ugly still." As Judy Tenuta would say, "You thought it, I said it." Yes, 2000 is going to be a real party. Let the bitchfest begin. ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Short Distances and Definite Places: The Photographs of William Gedney opens Friday at SFMOMA.



Calendare by Mark Mardon

Playwrights act out

Not every stage production has to have elaborate sets and a professional cast to be fulfilling. A while back I got the chance to sample some new works being hammered out by participants in **The Emerging Playwrights Series of the Artists Alliance Against AIDS**, and though the amateur one-acts and monologues were stripped-down affairs, the results were impressive enough for me to want to encourage others to check out their offerings.

Now's your chance: in association with the **Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts**, the emerging playwrights will be presenting three short dramatic pieces this Friday and Saturday, January 21 and 22. Most promising are two one-act plays by veteran actor, stage manager, director, and regional theater producer **Irl Mowery**. His plays have been produced off-off Broadway and on Theatre Row in Hollywood. This weekend, drop in at Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) in the Castro to catch "Reaching Out" and "Topping Out," two affecting pieces that address AIDS issues with sensitivity and intelligence.

In "Reaching Out," soft-spoken, mild-mannered Roger begins questioning whether or not he failed as a father when, presently, he finds himself on his way back to Chillicothe, Ohio from his gay son's funeral.

In "Topping Out," Henry has to call on the generosity of his childhood friend, Kathryn, in order to complete the construction of an AIDS hospice. Kathryn is a wealthy matron crippled in a car accident that took her husband's life. As they catch up on old times, Henry makes a number of stunning disclosures, one of which brings back the fateful night of the accident and the chain of events that led to it.

When I previewed these pieces in their workshop phase, I expected some of the same maudlin stuff we've seen so much of about the AIDS crisis. And there was a bit of it. But both pieces gripped and held me. I felt moved, and believe others will too. The writing was first rate, and the actors engaging.

Too bad there weren't many in the audience to absorb the experience. The chapel at MCC had but a sprinkling of audience members. This time around, let's hope members of the queer community show their support for queer artists by turning out in force.

I can't say I was terribly impressed by "Chimayo," the third piece of the night, when I saw it a while back. It's a monologue by **Christopher Woods**, whose plays have been produced in cities across the U.S. In it, a fellow named Lenny has a final request: to be taken to Chimayo, a little church town in the hills of New Mexico known for its miracles. As a close friend recounts the trip, he reveals it wasn't only Lenny who was looking for miracles. In workshop, the piece sped by so fast, delivered by a character who seemed as though he had been up for several days snorting crystal meth, that the significance of the words escaped me.

Still, I suggest taking a chance that, this time around, the piece will be slowed down and delivered in a comprehensible fashion. If it doesn't work, don't worry: it's quite brief, and you'll get your money's worth from Mowery's plays. ▼

Reaching Out and Topping Out by Irl Mowery, along with **Chimayo** by Christopher Woods, will be performed Fri. & Sat., January 21 & 22 at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St.. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. Info: 554-0402.

Fri 21

Magic Theatre

Festival of Lesbian Playwrights presents a workshop production of Claire Chafee's **Five Women On A Hill In Spain**. A group of women are vacationing in Spain in 1963, during the voyage of the first female cosmonaut. \$15. 8:30pm. Also on 1/22. Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center. Info: 441-8822.

Jon Sims Center

AI/Space artist in residence Ryan Galbreath performs "Who's Afraid of Who?" a dance-based exploration of gay male relationships. He creates a surreal landscape fusing cocktail lounge music, trip-hop, and rock music, blended with dialogue and super-eight projections. Hyper-athletic movement and contact improvisation characterize the dancing. Performers' bodies will be sculpted in duets, solos, and group tableaux, presenting vignettes where violence transforms into affection, aggression into affection, and emotion into momentum. Followed by audience/artist discussion. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8:30pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). 554-0402.

Venue 9

Women's Work Jubilee presents "Baby" by Kerry Gaither (three dancers portray "Baby," signifying endearment, derision and childhood) and "Born Freek" by Karen Goldstein (an autobiographical look at an exotic dancer's search for self-love). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

Exit theatre

"Give Me Shelter," in which Bay Area native Wendy Weiner returns to satirize the distinctly urban chaos of hunting for an apartment in New York City. Directed by Julie Kramer. Tonight only is a benefit for Cell, a San Francisco artist/activist collective in the Mission District. \$10-\$20 sliding (other nights: \$14; \$12 students/seniors). 8pm. Thru March 4. 156 Eddy St. Tix/info: 541-5008.

CenterStage, San Rafael

Cabaret star Andrea Marcovicci performs her new show, "Our Songs: 1965-85." Featuring music from Peter, Paul & Mary, Carly Simon, Judy Collins, Don Maclean and other artists dear to Baby Boomers. \$20 (tonight only; subsequent nights \$28). 7:30pm. Also on 1/22 & 23 at 8pm. Hoyt Theater, Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 North San Pedro Road, San Rafael. Tix: 479-2000 or 478-2277 (BASS).

Studio @ Rhino

"Broadway Ballbusters," a man-bashing musical review conceived by Eric Brizee and Alan Fricke, directed by Allen Sawyer and John Karr. Featur-

ing performers Eric Brizee, Jorge Hernandez, Gary Wayne Farris, pianist Alan Fricke, and a score of Broadway tunes about break-ups, breakdowns, and how gay men do what they do to beguile. \$14-\$15. 8:30pm. Wed.-Sat. through Feb. 5. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

Geary Theater

American Conservatory Theatre Artistic Director Carey Perloff directs the American premiere of Tom Stoppard's most recent play, *The Invention of Love*, a dream play that portrays the life of the English classicist and poet A.E. Housman, who lived his entire adult life in unrequited love for his Oxford classmate and school track star, Moses Jackson. \$14-\$46 Tue.-Thu. & Sun. eves; \$19-\$55 Fri. & Sat. eves. 415 Geary St. Tix: 749-2228 or BASS outlets.

The Marsh

"Haggard Tiercel," written and directed by David Ford, performed by Warren David Keith. In the middle of winter, a man stares fixedly at a pigeon — bait for the winged god of desire. A wild, comic autopsy of a married man's libido. \$12-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Thru Feb. 19. 1062 Valencia St. (near 22nd St.). 826-5750.

Yerba Buena Center

San Francisco Performances presents French-born choreographer Jacques Heim and his Diavolo Dance Theater in *Catapult: La Comedie Humaine*. The evening-length work focuses on the evolution of the living room couch, from ancient stone slab to post-modern plastic, to investigate the waiting, worrying, fighting and dying that make up the human condition. Original music score by Michel Colombier. \$22 & \$28. Also on Jan. 22. 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St.). Tix: 392-4400.

SFMOMA

Opening: "Short Distances and Definite Places: The Photographs of William Gedney," the first exhibition to present a survey of the work of this important American photographer. Images range from coal miners' families in easter Kentucky to hippies in the Haight-Ashbury to scenes of Indian cities. Gedney died of AIDS in 1989. \$9 (\$6 seniors; \$5 students). 11am-6pm. Thru May 16. 151 Third St. Info: 357-4000.

A Different Light

Lesléa Newman reads from *Girls Will Be Girls*, a novella that looks at three different women and the circumstances that bring them into contact and ultimately conflict with each other. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

MACT

Men of All Colors Together hold their

monthly video night at a new location. \$2 donation. Refreshments served. 7pm. 490 Collingwood St. (at 22nd St.). Apt. 3. Info: 675-0201.

Paradise Lounge

Local queer rockers "ing" share the stage with other bands including Alien Lovestock (with Eric McFadden) and Stars From Mars. Cover charge. 9:30pm. 308 11th St. (at Folsom). 861-6906.

550 Barneveld

"Evolution," an all-night dance party presented by David Harness, Keebo Robinson, Dave Sefton, and Dave Lucas. A monthly revival of rhythm, spirit, and soul. Spiritual Journey provided by DJs David Harness, Frank Richards (Club Utopia, Las Vegas), Ellen Ferrato, Norm Stradley, Raul, Pablo, Ric Roc, and Jason Douglas. 10pm-6am. Info: 579-2000.

Sat 22

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Love! Valour! Compassion!" the 1995 Tony Award-winning drama by Terrence McNally. Eight friends leave the city behind for relaxation at a remote farm house. There they hash out their passions, resentments and fears, fall in love, hurt and forgive one another, form couples and break apart. Illuminates an assortment of funny, bewildering and inspiring mutations on contemporary relationships. \$13-\$22. 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix: 861-8972.

Venue 9

Women's Work Jubilee presents "Anniversary Waltz" by Joya Cory (the story of Bud and Eileen, a San Quentin death-row inmate and the woman who marries him), Terry Baum & Margery Kretzman's "Nice Joosh Goltz," and Dawn Franks's "Unearthed" (modern dance by FAB WM). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

The Crucible, Berkeley

"Fire Feast 2000," a benefit in three acts. Act I: "Dining with Dante," a 7pm semi-formal dinner with a delectable feast of fire, prepared on sculptural stoves, accompanied by enticing performances. Fiery dress requested. Ambient chamber music by Kevan Keller Trio. Act II: "Arts of Fire," a benefit silent auction; take home flame-wrought works in metal, glass and ceramics. Act III: "All Hell Breaks Loose," an inferno of fun starting at 10pm, with bands and DJs. Blow off your formal wear and release your inner desires. Demonstrations of fiery fabrications, and daredevils flirt with flames. Acts I & II: \$60 per plate; reservations required. Act III: \$20 suggested donation at door. 1035 Murray St., Berkeley. Info/reservations: (510) 843-5511.

ODC Theater

Jazz pianist Vijay Iyer inaugurates "New Music: Post Millennium," a pilot program providing performance opportunities for New Music artists. The son of Indian immigrants, Iyer draws from South Asian and African-American idioms to create highly



Wendy Weiner confronts urban chaos in *Give Me Shelter* at Exit Theatre. See Friday.

Pamela Beitz and Mariah Sparks are *The Dyke and the Porn Star* at The Marsh. See Thursday.



Photo Credit

original, subtle, powerful music. With clarinetist Ben Goldberg, bassist Devin Hoff, and drummer E.W. Wainwright. \$12. 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

Boadecia Books, North Berkeley

Felice Newman, author of *Whole Lesbian Sex Guide*, discusses sex between women of very diverse backgrounds and differences. Free. 7:30pm. 398 Colusa Ave. (at Colusa Circle, Kensington/North Berkeley). Info: (510) 559-9184.

Sun 23

Magic Theatre

Festival of Lesbian Playwrights presents a staged reading of "Who Killed Yolanda Saldívar?" Cherrie Moraga's meditation on strong women in Latino society, focusing on the murder of singing sensation Selena. \$10. 7:30pm. Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center. Info: 441-8822.

Old First Church

Old First Concerts presents the San Francisco Concerto Orchestra conducted by Allen Simon and featuring tenor Antoine Garth in a world premiere for chorus and orchestra by local gay composer Jay Lyon, performed by the ensemble *Soli Deo Gloria*. \$9 (\$7 students/seniors). 7pm. 1751 Sacramento St. (at Van Ness). 474-1608.

Venue 9

Women Work Jubilee presents Priscilla Park's "Genesis Whispers" (modern dance), Anna Budd's "From Shit Grows the Roses" (a young social worker does her best to cope with gang wars, sexual harassment, and a world of decay and violence), and Carla Smith-Zilber's "Six Songs in Search of a Story" (one woman's odyssey along the boulevard of broken show-biz dreams). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

Clos Pegase Winery, Calistoga

"The Art of Giving, The Giving of Art," an art auction to benefit Napa Valley AIDS Service organizations and the Arts Council of Napa Valley, sponsored by Napa Artists for People with AIDS (NAPA). View and bid on paintings, photographs, and other works donated by Northern California artists. Enjoy music and refreshments provided by Clos Pegase, Grgich Cellars, and Crystal Geyser Water Co., along with appetizers provided by select restaurants and caterers. Bidding begins at 2pm in the winery's beautiful cave theater, and closes at 4:30pm. \$20 donation at door (ap-

plied towards any successful bid). Info: (707) 257-8686.

Northbrae Community Church, Berkeley

Renaissance Dance Party, presented by MusicSources and dance mistress Carol Teten, creator of Dance through Time, teaching movement from the time of Queen Elizabeth: pavane and branle. Fun for all ages. Reception at MusicSources, a cultural, educational, and special-events facility (explore its historic instruments). \$18 (\$15 students/seniors). 5pm. 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Reservations: (510) 528-1685.

Community Music Center

Chamber music recital of pieces by Schumann, Schubert, Mozart, Hundley, and Brahms, featuring Jeffrey Swinkin on piano, Kumaran Arulanatham on piano, Nathaniel Basa on violin, Carmen Creel on clarinet, and Amy McKenzie, soprano. Free. 4pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

Mon 24

Green Room

Chamber Music Partnership presents The Left Coast Chamber Ensemble in a concert featuring the West Coast premiere of Mario Davidovsky's "Festino for Guitar and Strings," the world premiere of Laurie San Martin's "Piano Trio," and the world premiere of Justin Merritt's "The Day Lorestan Murdered Magister Raro." Also on the program will be J. Brahms' "Piano Trio in B Major." \$12/\$15. 8pm. Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Ave. 642-8054.

Tue 25

Red Vic Movie House

"The Source," a comprehensive documentary focusing on the beat generation, especially Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, and William Burroughs, with interviews with Gregory Corso, Ken Kesey, Diane DiPrima and Timothy Leary. Also including Johnny Depp, John Turturro and Dennis Hopper. \$6.50 (\$3 seniors & children). 7:15pm & 9:15pm. 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

Wed 26

Red Vic Movie House

"Julien Donkey-Boy," a film by writer/director Harmony Korine (*Kids; Gummo*), shot under the ethos of Dogma 95, a manifesto encouraging naturalistic, low-tech filmmaking. Shot on digital video, it focuses on

Julien, a young boy suffering from schizophrenia and living with his off-beat family. \$6.50 (\$3 seniors & children). 2, 7:15, & 9:20pm. Also on 1/27. 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

Thu 27

The Marsh

Opening night: "The Dyke and the Porn Star," written and directed by Bayla Travis, performed by Pamela Beitz and Mariah Sparks. This wry look at modern lesbian passion tells the story of Chance, who is obsessed with Tara Gold, a porn star. \$12-\$15 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. Thu.-Sat. thru Feb. 19. 1062 Valencia St. (near 22nd St.). 826-5750.

Yerba Buena Center

SF Jewish Film Festival presents *Tell the Truth and Run*, a documentary by Rick Goldsmith chronicling the astonishing life and work of muckraking reporter George Seldes. Throughout his long, exciting and frequently difficult career, Seldes was tenaciously devoted to the truth, drawing the ire of the rich and powerful at home and abroad. \$6 (\$5 students/seniors). 8pm. Screening Room at YBC, 701 Mission St. 978-2700.

Yerba Buena Center

"Bay Area Now Live," featuring acclaimed artists Nao Bustamante and Kathryn Williamson in an evening of experimental performance. Bustamante is well-known for his video and installation work; Williamson bases her work on ideas of endurance and testing boundaries. \$5 (\$3 students/seniors). Galleries at YBC, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd St.). 6pm. Info: 978-ARTS.

The Swallow

"Show-Wymyn-Ship at Its Best," an evening of songs from female entertainers new and old, featuring cabaret performer Claudia Newberry. No cover. 9:30pm. 1750 Polk St. 775-4152.

Venue 9

Women's Work Jubilee presents Liebe Wetzel's "Snake in the Basement: the Prosecution of Bill Pruitt" (a puppet piece about a pastor accused of child molestation; featuring the Lunatique Fantastique Ensemble), Carla Johnston's "Girl Scout Rejects" (about a girl ejected from the Scouts for punching out a boy), and Janet Thornburg's "Pink Rods, Red Clouds and a Rhubarb Pie" (a woman at a Willa Cather Conference discovers her man has done her wrong!). \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Howard & Folsom). 289-2000.

Get Lost Travel Books

Bay Area contributors to *Travelers' Tales: A Woman's Passion for Travel* read their stories from the anthology. Free. 7pm. 1825 Market St. Info: 437-0529.

A Different Light

Grant Lukenbill discusses and signs copies of his latest book, *Smart Spending*, an up-to-date and thorough guide for gay, lesbian and socially responsible consumers and investors, which allows them to make purchasing decisions based on manufacturers' records on gay and lesbian rights. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. Info: 431-0891.

Slim's

Triple album-release party featuring Eighth Note Records recording artists Garrin Benfield (*Living a Dream*), Jallen Rix (*Time on a Chain*) and Michael Rodriguez (*Invocation*). Plus special surprise guests. Free. 7:30pm. 333 11th St. Info: 621-0767.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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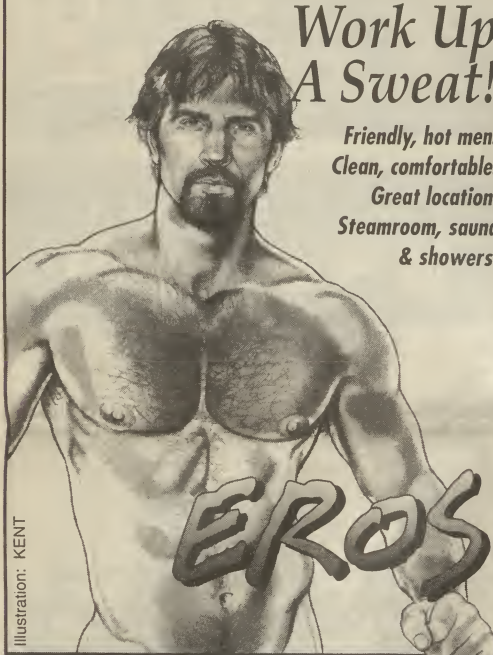


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The Mid-Atlantic Leather 2000 contest winners, from left: Jon Worthington of Norfolk, Virginia, first runner-up; Tom Robinson, the new title-holder; and Ralph Wood of Northeast, Pennsylvania.

Hometown boy wins D.C. contest

by Mister Marcus

A strapping, handsome Washington, D.C. man prevailed over ten other contenders to capture the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather 2000 title last Sunday, January 16 at the mammoth Chaos nightclub in D.C. It was the highlight of the annual weekend-long leather gathering which saw slightly more than 2,000 people of the leather persuasion participate in the first major leather title contest of the year.

It would be difficult to say which city sent the most representatives. There was a huge Canadian presence due to the fact that outgoing Dean Ross of Ottawa had done such a great job with the title last year. Leather men and women from far and wide mingled in a renewed spirit of camaraderie, reunion and joie de vivre to celebrate their chosen lifestyle and all the benefits that accrue to the greater LGBT communities as a result of their fundraising and activism.

The eleven contestants were Peter Scaminaci, Rich Trevino, Rick Spencer, Jon Worthington, Austin Masters, Tom Larson, D.J. Jones, Tom Robinson, Ralph Wood, Butch Bulgotha and David Labriola.

Only minutes before hometown boy Tom Robinson was named to the title, David Labriola was chosen by his fellow contestants to receive the Brotherhood Award (leather version of Mr. Congeniality), Ralph Wood was chosen the 2nd runner-up, and Jon (body by God) Worthington was the first runner-up.

The audience roared its approval of the decision rendered by judges Dean Ross, John Weis, Amy Marie Meek, Jon Knight, IML Bruce Chopnik, IMs.L Pam

Meyer and the outgoing MAL Dean Ross. The judging panel was the most unruly group I've ever seen in a major competition, and they injected a huge amount of levity into the proceedings that had the audience in stitches. Their antics also caused a certain amount of consternation to the eminent MC Frank Nowicki and comedienne Shann Carr.

The theme of the weekend was "Manners & Respect," and at a certain point each judge held up lettered cards spelling the word respect. But it soon turned into an audacious display of words including "creep" and other unmentionable terms of derision, causing Ms. Carr to retort at one point, "All right, you third grade Scrabble players, knock it off!" The audience roared.

Several beautiful pins bearing the M&R theme were distributed to selected members of the leather community for their dedication and adherence to the codes of the leather nation. It was quite a

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, January 20

Mr. February 2001 on the bare chest calendar will be chosen at 2100 tonight at the Powerhouse. Win \$100 and an opportunity to serve the community.

Weekend, January 21-23

Leatherfest 2000 at the Suncoast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida, and Mr. Suncoast Eagle Leather contest among scads of leather/SM-oriented events all weekend.

Friday, January 21

BDSM movies for Exiles of SF and their friends at the Women's Bldg. Doors open at 1930; \$3 members/\$5 guests. Call 487-5170 for details/info.

Saturday, January 22

GDIs of SF celebrate their 26th anniversary at the Eagle, 1900-2100. Admission by invite or club overlay. Congratulations!

Pegasus MOC overnight bike trip to Guerneville (Russian River), with lots of shenanigans for serious bikers.

Tuesday, January 25

The selection process for successors to the thrones of T.J. and Sheba begin tonight when the holy cows of our imperial family interview and pass on the

contenders to the throne.

Wednesday, January 26

Leather Buddies congregate at 933 Harrison tonight with the doors open from 2100-2300 only. Leather and boots mandatory. No cologne. Your armpits will be sniffed too. Don't even try.

The Ring continues with "Pain Management for Bottoms." Doors open at 1830; presentation at 1900. No one admitted after 1900. For info and location, call 437-9883 or email: the_ring@ix.net.com.

Thursday, January 27

Mr. March 2001 on the bare chest calendar gets chosen at the Powerhouse tonight at 2100. New judges, old questions. Win \$100, fame, and serve the community. Remember, last year's guy raised \$25,000! Can you top him?

Weekend, January 28-30

Mr/Ms Santa Clara County Leather 2000 will be chosen at a weekend long leather event in the San Jose Area. More details next week.

In Vancouver, B.C., Mr. British Columbia Leather 2000 will be chosen in another weekend-long leather gathering. The roster for Int'l. Mr. Leather 2000 grows!

PORN

Torture me softly

by John F. Karr

The giddy holidays are safely past, and there's nothing in front of us now but torture and pain. At least if you're watching the newest releases from Shotgun Video, whose ball torture and SM bondage features will have you squirming.

But first, a bit of local history. It was nearly 25 years ago that I spent several weeks cruising a hunky young blond in standing room at the opera. So I was delighted to find myself at last alone with him in a cubicle at the baths. But not so delighted when he twisted my balls. I yelped. He urged me to relax, and yanked on them again. I protested. "Don't worry," he whispered. "I know how far to take you."

I wasn't so sure of that, as he'd already exceeded my strikingly low pain threshold, and I ended our tryst before we'd hardly begun. And I believe that may have been the only time Roger has misjudged his companion, because in the intervening years he's become one of the city's chief pain providers (check out his classified ad). He's also the brains behind Shotgun Video, as well as the chief torturer in front of its cameras.

There are several things that impress me about his Shotgun product. First, and most important, is the quality of topping provided by Roger, whose mastery of his craft is appreciable (as long as it's not applied to my body). He's a severe top, yet cautious. And it's quite delicious how he gets off on his subject's pain. It's just as they pass their outer limit and hurl out their loudest scream that Roger's always hard dick explodes in a no-hands orgasm. It's quite an act, and one he serves up faithfully.

I'm also impressed with the quality of Shotgun's videography. Where most porn is made with one camera, Roger uses three fixed cameras to cover the primary angles, and then adds a fourth

roving camera to catch those telling incidents that can't be foreseen. And then there's the quality of Roger's subjects. I just didn't expect the recipients of his manhandling to be so uniformly handsome, well-built, and beautifully hung. Muscle and physique cultists will be overjoyed.

This is immediately apparent in the company's two new videos. *103 Gun Salute!* is a festival of deadly serious ball torture, in which innumerable punishments produce raging hard-ons, piercing cries of pain, and at least one orgasm per minute. I winced at the ingenious methods — the guys are spread-eagled, mummified, gagged and hooded, and their tender nuts are whacked, crushed, and electrically zapped, as ball stretchers threaten to tear the genitals off their bodies. And you can forget dialogue and drawn out set-ups. We join each stud when he's right on the verge, so the pain level is always at max, the tension at its highest, and the loads — of both the subjects and the reliable Roger — are just seconds away from blasting.

With *A Leather Dream*, Shotgun presents the first of its Rigid Video releases, which will focus on leather, muscle, and passion. Romantic S&M — who woulda thunk? In this premiere release, I'm both surprised and mighty pleased to find bondage and kinky sexplay handled with the fervor of Buck Laguna and Dirk Cherokee, two gorgeous guys who are a real-life leather couple. Buck, at 5'8" and 195 lbs., is a wall of muscle, with a 46" chest, 17.5" arms, and a supermassive, rock-hard rump. It's a major thrill. Dirk's taller, so not as bulky, and sports a thick mustache. Their hour-and-40-minute video carries us through three scenes. In the first, magnificent kissing and caressing are a prelude to cock worship and Dirk's rather elegant flogging of Buck, who's tied to a St. Anthony's cross.

The men move to a bed for a passionate make-out session, dur-



ing which the camera gloats on hearty nipples being munched, creamy assholes rearing open for reverential rimming, and both succulent cocks being worshipfully sucked. A good detail — Dirk wears his knee-high boots, laced to the top, throughout the scene.

Yet this lovemaking is only a prelude to the real test Dirk has in store for his lover. Buck is strapped to a bondage table, where Dirk surgically pierces his nipples, and ties the four ends of the pins to an overhead hoist from which hangs an empty gallon juice container. Dirk begins filling it with a mixture of beer and his own piss, and the increasing weight of the container pulls Buck's nipples from his body. When the jar is nearly full, Dirk straddles his lover's face, and Buck's dick jerks into full erection, pointing almost as high as his outstretched nipples. As the couple shoot their loads, Dirk punctures the container to douse Buck with its contents.

It's swell, practically unique, to see the pair of leathermen in *A Leather Dream* engaged in the rigors of serious SM edge play while being simultaneously sensual and loving. And gorgeous. ▼

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

show.

The production numbers interspersed between the scoring appearances of the contestants were top notch. The opening spectacle brought the house down, and a humorous enactment of the song "Respect," with leather boys turning the tables on their daddies, was a show stopper. Mindy Chateauvert, in a dress and a red wig, caught everyone off guard. Mindy is the number one babe (moll?) of the Men of Discipline-DC, and Shann Carr once again scored a triumph with her set.

At my deadline, I was unable to confirm the name of the winner of the Mid-Atlantic boot black contest, but you will know next week.

The weather was considerably cooler than normal, so you know the host hotel's lobby was a bonanza of eye candy. The security at the hotel was so laid back, there were numerous scenarios that I dare not print here — only to protect the guilty. Know that men and women alike partied with gusto, and observers will never forget the impromptu lusty happenings.

Year after year, with each production of Leather Weekend, the Centaur Motorcycle Club never

fails to produce a top-notch weekend, each better than the last. Adding to the enjoyment were the courteous and efficient staff at the Washington Plaza, and the numerous shuttle buses to ferry the delegates to the activity sites. There were classy commemorative tee shirts and lapel pins to be had, and every club member and volunteer dedicated themselves to making sure each guest left with a vow to return next year.

Almost 200 people have already booked their reservations for the host hotel for next year, so if you plan to attend, don't wait!

It's safe and accurate to say that the Centaur MC scored another triumph with this 15th edition of the contest, their 25th anniversary, and the kickoff of year 2000 on the delightful road to IML in Chicago next May. If you've never attended MAL, I strongly suggest you ask anyone who has and you'll get a resounding positive recommendation. It's still the best bargain on the leather weekend/contest circuit, and you will have a positive and memorable leather experience, I guarantee it. Thank you Centaur MC! The community salutes your forthright dedication to leather pride.

On the home front

The Mr. San Francisco 2000 Leather contest committee met

last week and hammered out some dynamic plans for this city's first major leather competition of the century on Friday, March 10. You will not want to miss Werner Tillinger's stepping "aside" entrance! Meanwhile, the judges for this year's contest have been invited, and the committee is looking for volunteer "signers" to accommodate the deaf leather community at the contest. If you are interested, please contact Patrick Batt at (415) 621-1188. At my deadline it was confirmed that IML 1998 Tony Mills will be the master of ceremonies. Hooray!

Also be reminded that the entry fee for all contestants is only \$25. There are two contestants already: Mr. GDI Leather 1999 and Mr. Marin County Leather 1999.

Mr. Edge Leather 2000 is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9 and Mr. Daddy's Leather 2000 is the very next night, Thursday, February 10. No word yet on whether the Powerhouse, Lone Star, Eagle, Hole in the Wall or My Place will field a contestant or even stage a contest. Stay tuned. The theme of the production this year is "It's Reigning Men — The Sequel," and the opening production number will knock you out!

Tickets this year are \$20 advance or \$25 at the door. Watch this column for the date tickets go on sale. They will be available only at Auto Erotica and at Mister S. ▼

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Wed. Jan. 26th LEATHER BUDDIES



Such a sweet beginning

Starting 2000 with Lesléa Newman

by Deborah Peifer

I don't really believe in portents and omens, but I do take great joy in the fact that the very first book I've read with a 2000 copyright is outstanding. Lesléa Newman, the author of more than 25 extraordinary books, including *A Letter to Harvey Milk*, *Still Life with Buddy*, and the

ubiquitous *Heather Has Two Mommies*, offers a new collection consisting of a novella and 11 short stories, *Girls Will Be Girls* (Alyson, \$12.95) that is a gift to readers everywhere. I've come to expect such richness from Newman, and that may be unfair — the merely good would simply not be acceptable from her pen. No problem here, because *Girls Will Be Girls* is a delight.

Many writers of short fiction seem to think that they need not worry about such novelistic concerns as plot and character. They write in a single voice, so that reading a collection feels like reading the same story over and over again. Just as in the MGM musicals of Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney, the names change, but the characters have a numbing sameness. Plots are formulaic at best, tedious at worst. The attitude sug-

gests that short stories require less effort than long works. The truth, of course, is that short stories are infinitely more difficult to write well than novels, because so much care must be taken with every single word. A writer must capture in a sentence what a novelist

can take a chapter to reveal. When the effort is made, however, and more importantly, when the effort succeeds, the result is an exquisite gem, a breathtaking discovery, a character who

lives on in the memory. The stories in *Girls Will Be Girls* provide just such readerly treasures.

Choosing a favorite among these stories is considerably more difficult than choosing a favorite child. Let me just talk about a few. "Family Is Family" is a stunning monologue, spoken by the mother of Susan. She attends a PFLAG meeting not because she supports



her daughter's lesbianism, but to convince herself that her daughter is the problem. "You all have children like Susan? Oy, I'm so sorry, but misery loves company, right?" This mother is horrified and disbelieving when she learns the truth. "What do you mean you're not miserable, there's nothing to be sorry about, you're proud that your children are funny?" We don't only meet the mother in this monologue. From Mom's withering comments, we also get a clear picture of Susan and her impossible life with this

page 48 ►

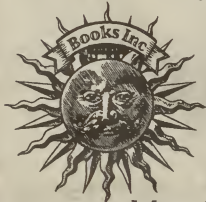
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Up Your Ass

◀ Arts cover

strong voices among the principal performers. But since this is the first public performance of the 35-year-old play, made notorious when Solanas pumped a bullet into Warhol after he lost her only copy, it might have been more welcome to hear what she had to say without the musical embellishment.

When Solanas' characters do get the chance to say their lines, the results can be rudely entertaining.

"I'd like more than anything to be a lesbian," says a male pig. "I can be the cake and eat it, too."

"Everyone knows that men have respect for women who lap up shit," explains a cheery career gal as she searches the street for a special turd.

"You got a twat by Dior?" barks a street-tough lesbian to a society dame who has blown off her advances.

"When the hand's busy rocking the cradle, it won't be rocking the boat," says the lesbian dismissing the sanctity of motherhood.

Bongi hit

Bongi Perez, the rabble-rousing lesbian, alternates between being the central character in the action and a sarcastic observer on it. She is obviously a stand-in for Solanas as she shoots down all male arguments about the role of women, while tweaking a few female philosophies as well. Solanas was ahead of her time in 1965, and much of her heterosexual-culture bashing doesn't sound particularly dated today.

The play isn't much on plot structure, as characters and scenes seem to arrive and depart without much rhyme or reason. But this loose quality adds to a sense of rowdy burlesque that director George Coates' production complements with its quirky casting.

All the men are played by women in guy drag that playfully

creates almost cartoon-like caricatures. Karen Ripley brilliantly creates a pathetic putz who imagines he's a ladies man, before returning unrecognized as a flighty crone who delivers a lecture on proper homemaker etiquette. Annie Larson, as a pontificating fool, suggests a slightly sinister version of Art Carney's Ed Norton. And Mantra Plonsey looks like something out of a silent movie as a diminutive tough guy.

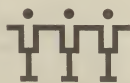
There are women as women as well. Leanne Borghesi is delightfully bubble-brained as the play's unliberated woman. Sharon Boggs, who runs the karaoke machine from stage left, makes periodic forays into the musical action with a powerful singing voice. Finally, Sara Moore, as Bongi, centers this diffuse play with a grounded performance fueled by a caustic charisma.

Solanas was a forgotten footnote by the time she died in San Francisco in 1988, but *Up Your Ass* displays a skill behind her take-no-prisoners sensibilities. But what might she have thought of her play becoming a musical? Just a guess, of course, but I suspect she'd be pissed. ▼

Up Your Ass will run at George Coates Performance Works through April 8. Tickets are \$16. Call 392-4400.



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GAY.COM

Karen Ripley and Sara Moore in Valerie Solanas' *Up Your Ass*

David Wilson

dosing / time / convenience

drug cocktail / work / side effects



food interactions / balance

why

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SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

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Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

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¹ Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 1999.

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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:**

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:**

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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DuPont Pharmaceuticals

Wilmington, DE 19880
Issued September, 1998

MUSIC

Garrin Benfield

◀ Arts cover

acoustic guitarists in the Bay Area, and he's almost equally adept at electric guitar and bass. In his lyrical blending of funk, rock, blues, American folk, country and bluegrass, and with the expressiveness of his alternately soft-and-smoky, tough-and-gravely voice tinged with occasional country twang, Benfield is fast on his way to the top of the pack of young balladeers nationwide who are attempting to keep acoustic-guitar-driven rock alive and relevant in the 21st century.

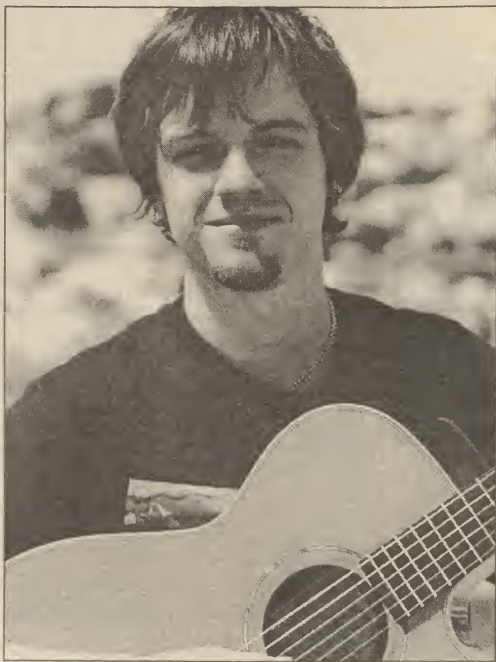
So impressive are Benfield's stylings, and so engaging his open, friendly personality, that musicians of the highest caliber jump at the opportunity to play with him. His album features several top-notch artists, all respected Bay Area musicians: Pat Campbell on drums; Chad Clouse on violin; Dave Matthews on B-3 Organ and Wurlitzer; Paul Van Wageningen on drums; Mark Van Wageningen on bass; Gary Potterton on pedal steel.

By far the most significant contribution to Benfield's album is by Michael Rodriguez, co-founder along with Chris Tabarez of Eighth Note Records, a brand-new recording label that accomplished a coup in signing Benfield, who has yet to be discovered by a major label, as inevitably he will be. Not only does Rodriguez lend sophistication to *Living A Dream* through his exquisite touch on a variety of keyboards (piano, Wurlitzer, Rhodes, B-3, synth and drum programming), he also engineered (along with Tabarez) and mixed the album — talents he honed as studio engineer for jazz great Boz Scaggs. Rodriguez and Tabarez spent well over a month in Scaggs' studio making the album with Benfield, bringing in other musicians as needed, working long days and longer nights. On the strength of their mutual passion for music, their huge affection for one another, their deep respect for each other's talent, and their complete synchronicity, they achieved a nearly flawless product.

Listen to the album multiple times and you can begin to pick out the influences: Beck, Elliot Smith, Mississippi John Hurt, Radiohead, the Beatles, the Grateful Dead, Neil Young, Ani DiFranco, Leo Kottke, Joni Mitchell, Bill Frisell, Mother Hips, James Taylor, and on and on. The songs are eclectic in style, some with echoes of Appalachia, others funky acid-rock, still others soulful folk songs (one of the most affecting tracks, "Already Heard," a dark, quiet love ballad, recalls Leonard Cohen in its simplicity and deep, whisper-like vocals backed by acoustic guitar and an arrangement of soft strings).

Apart from a single instrumental track, the one song that stands out as an exception in *Living A Dream*, getting away from the love affair with Smith, is the hard-driving "What You're Hiding," an anguished/angry take on the grisly murder of gay Wyoming youth Matthew Shepard. It makes sense that Benfield identifies with Shepard. The two seem equally diminutive and vulnerable, with the same sort of trusting nature; had the two ever met, chances are they would have become friends. Alas, Shepard had the life beat out of him for being gay, and Benfield's anguish at the loss, and his anger at the society responsible for the murder, results in what surely is one of the most moving tributes ever to the slain youth.

At 3 a.m., surrounded by several remaining guests lounging



Have guitar, will style: Garrin Benfield

around in a nitrous haze, Benfield is part of a combo jamming in the front room of Rodriguez's 18th St. apartment. The soul in the room is thick as molasses; the blues cuts to the core. The party, taking place barely a week after New Year's Eve 2000, has wound down, but the musicians persist, stirring a cocktail of improvised acoustic piano, electric piano, electric bass, amped acoustic guitar, digital drum effects, and miked vocals. They're having a musical conversation in subdued tones. Something about the time of night, the fragrance of spent liquor bottles, spilt beer, and pot, the all-but-immobile lingering partiers, and the knowledge that this is both an end and a beginning for a close group of friends permeates the air with a certain sweet sadness.

Rodriguez and Tabarez have announced they'll be relocating to New York City, where Tabarez has taken a lucrative software engineering job. They've secured a space for a recording studio, and will continue producing Eighth Note Records albums from there. For Benfield, their departure signals not the end of a relationship — they'll keep working together long distance — but a significant shift. No longer will he have the two as constant influences. Though Benfield and Smith are surrounded by loving friends of all ages, genders and sexual orientations, and get invited to just about every party where cute, skinny gayboys gather, the departure of Benfield's two principal music collaborators will force him to seek new musical relationships, and that inevitably will impact his musical direction.

So the blues that saturates Rodriguez's living room this night, engulfing the bleary-eyed revelers, is as genuine as can be. Everyone knows this moment, including everything that went into creating *Living A Dream*, must recede into memory. An album has been born; now it will be left to find its way, even as the seeds of a new album begin to germinate in fresh soil. ▼

A free triple album-release party concert featuring Eighth Note Records recording artists Garrin Benfield, Michael Rodriguez, and Jallen Rix will take place Thursday, January

27, 7:30 p.m. at Slim's, 333 11th St. For more information, surf www.eighthnoterecords.com.

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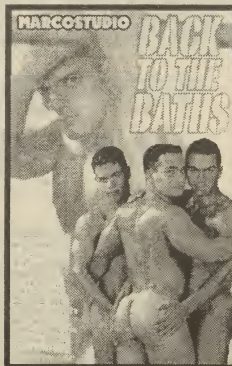
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PARTING GLANCES

Election Day AM Muni Castro
You three Yamish reminding people to vote for Tom. Me, suit and tie smoking, talked to you a bit had to go to work, want to do dinner? 71325

Flower Mart-Sat Dec. 11
You-working at shop. Me: tall, dark hair, goatee, you smiled, but were on the phone said hi the week before. Dinner sometime? 71326

Sexy Stunning Young Asian Boy
Admired in subway "M" muni 10:20, 12/17, Disarray spiky hair, great smile, wearing black shirt, white sleeves, lots of eye contact w/Asian BF? Me: cute blond boy, meet? 71327

Old Nasty, Sat. 18th
You: crew cut, beautiful blue eyes, black jacket, teal khakis, couldn't help staring. Me-Latin, waiting outside. We exchanged greeting, would like to introduce myself. 71328

S.F. Flower Market 12/16
Christopher-you looking for Amariyllis. Would you like to have dinner? 71341

Gold's Gym Dec. 14 4pm
You sexy WM, me Asian male. We exchanged a few smiles in the locker room. Wanted to introduce myself, but didn't want to interrupt your workout. Are you single? 71342

Fernando, Watergardner Worker
Is being admired by a over the hill man who would enjoy tone in cheek perform onto you! 71343

Saturday Midnight Sun Dec 18
John, I saw you in the back looking my way. My friend Dan & I, met you just before going to Metro. Dave is interested please call soon. 71344

Castro Theatre Dec 24 5pm
You-bearded hunk, bottom of stairs, with programs. Me-green knit shirt, black pants heading up stairs. We exchanged glances, but when I came back down, you were gone. Please call. 71345

Followed You And Lost You Some
You-good looking WM, dark hair and jacket. 4th and Townsend by Caltrain. Me-WM, green coat, jeans. Shoulder bag-exchanged glances Dec, 12/22 5:30pm. Very nice. 71346

Green Room Xmas Eve 2pm
South end of terrace. You: lean, short hair, big smile, gray t-shirt. Me: glasses, balding, maroon pullover at next table. You've captured my attention before. I'd like to meet you. 71347

Sexy Muni Man Dec. 30
Embarcadero, 7:00pm, you standing, me sitting. You got off Van Ness. You dark hair, tie. Me: salt/pepper, blue eyes. Dinner? You sexy! 71345

Howard DB Sat. 01-01
You 24 hour-Mr world. Wish I got your number. Please call. Rick. 71402

Hillsdale Mall Sat. AM 30th
You-good looking hunk trouble getting laid. Me: sweatshirt & jeans, boots, w/older guy. We locked eyes for a long time. I can't stop thinking about you... 71336

Jason-New Years Eve Late Nite
Wanted to tell you how handsome U looked when we chatted at the muni stop in the Castro on Eve of 2000. Let's do lunch or dinner- Contact David 71403

Downtown Thur 12/30
1:30p. You: Asian w/bm leather jacket. Me: Caucasian/bik jacket. Walking down Market/Embarcadero. Wanted to say hello to you, but shy. I blew it. You're gorgeous. Please call. 71404

Solstice Party 12-25
Caught your eye twice. Once when you were in the sling, then again while on your back in the jail cell. So big man, please us both and call me. 71405

New Years Eve Fireworks
You: Cute GWM. Me: GWM, leaving after fireworks at the Ferry Bldg. We smiled at each other twice, then waived. Like to meet? 71406

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

ISO Adventurous Outdoors Guy
WM, attrac, 5'7", 150#, 48, neg. likes: hiking, camping, rodeos, motorcycles, adventure, passion and big hearts. 71179

Cinderella/Seeks/Prince/Charming
Sonoma fellow available for castle upkeep & romance. Me: 41, br/blu, 180 HIV+ fun, fit you could be: dark, dom, hairy, husky 40-50, sincere affectionate & mature. 71412

Seeking Hispanic/Blond Blue 18-21yrs.
Prefer significant other/friends HIV-. No overweights/fleas. I'm Hispanic, blk. hr. brn. eyes, olive complexion, 24yrs. 157lbs. HIV- considered good looking comments made. 71180

Good Catch!
GWM, 41, 6'3", 220# financially secure HIV-, recently out of LTR. Seeks 35-45yo, HIV- dark, hairy, top. Like movies, entering & good times, no drugs, alcohol ok. 71181

If You're Gonna Suck Cock...
Then be so good at it your guys don't even fantasize fucking you/always cum back for more, is my motto! What's yours? 71182

East Bay Guy For You
GWM, late 40's, Italian, hairy, professional. Looking for romance, sex, whatever. 71329

Brave Sexy Boy 49 Sks Lean Fit
Rough buddy/dad to tie me down, beat me, fuck me, keep my nipples sore, piss-fed me, make me stay shaved & horny. 5'8 1/2", 152, work out, uncult, buzzed/bm-gray, goatee, bl/glasses, cock-hungry. NS/ind exc. pot. pls. 71413

Best Friend Seeks Same
Not having much trouble getting laid, would like to meet someone to share affection, intimacy, and passion with. I'm HIV+, 47, 5'8", 140lbs, top Looking for a stocky bottom with a vivid personality who wants a best friend and companion. 71330

Frottage And Body Rubbing
GAM wishes to meet a hairy, hunky GM who likes to climb on top and rub himself to the sweet release of pleasure. I'm 56, 5'8", HIV-. Let's connect. 71348

2000 Man
GWM 49, 5'8", 140# s/p balding, hairy legs, arms & butt, 8" cut, HIV+, vers. bottom seeks well-hung butch top for play & possible relationship. 71349

Winter, Spring, Summer & Fall
Looking for year round mate. PGWM 43, HIV+, healthy, loving, love to travel, ISO LTR, would love to start New Years with you & my dog/dogs. 71350

Stockton/Sacto Area
GLM, 36, HIV+, healthy, handsome, easy-going, 5'8", 150lbs, blk/bm, enjoy working out, movies, responsible, serious man for friendship or more. 71351

Safe And Sane
GWM, 53, 5'8", 185, brn/bl, beard, HIV-seeks on-going relationship with horny, affectionate and loving GM who enjoys giving and receiving hand jobs. Let's pursue the possibilities. 71352

GAM Seeking GWM For LTR
Handsome, masculine-GAM, 38, 5'9", 135lbs. seeks in-shape GWM 30-45, HIV-college educated. Prefer facial hair, hairy body, versatile, SF, leather. 71367

Powerlifter Seeks Husky Latino
Beefy, short, masculine Latino wanted for LTR by GWM, 36, 6-295lbs. Brown hair/eyes, goatee, love food, travel, gym. For monogamous relationship. 71368

HIV+ ISO Fit GWM For Dating
We're stable, motivated, productive, masculine, socially aware, professional, good looking, gym toned. We like home, leather, versatility, synergy, tough, travel, humor. You're 35-45, ns, lean, secure, honest, seeking dating. 71410

Ain't Misbehavin'
Firm, fit, successful, Leo top w/8" solid manmeat. Saving love and intimacy for bottom that values same; be 40-55, HIV+, kind, LTR. 71369

Secure Man Looking For Companion
Attractive, successful, 50's GWM in search of 40ish same. Career prospects for a good life offered in exchange for monogamous companionship. 71370

New Millennium Opp:
GBM, 44 n/s HIV- ISO bright, conversational, HIV-, masculine bottom 30s-40s arts, collectible interests A+. 71371

EB WM Seeks HM For?
Friendship/more? 35yo attr. WM seeks HM 30-40 for dinner, movies, dancing. Give a call, you have nothing to lose. 71418

Penis Bondage-Erotic Chastity
Tight confinement, many days without cumming, prolonged sensual arousal. Seeking partner for deep intense involvement, delicate beginning, gradual development. WM 53, 5'8", 170#, solid workout body, bald short hair/beard. 71183

More Than Surface
Seeks similar for friendship and/or LTR. In-depth, intelligent person with a zeal for being. You: someone w/ depth and the need to understand life more. 71372

Need a Boy?
Cute, Latino boy looking for daddy. In S.F. Please call, you won't be sorry! 71373

ISO Outdoors GBM LTR Potential
Cute GWM 25yo/6'1" 140lb brown eyes dark hair slender build from San Jose area, prof and intelligent, ISO older African American for tennis, skiing and outdoors. 71374

Masochist Still Seeks
Chinese sadist for bodyplay (clothespins, spanking, etal), restrictive rope bondage and humiliation. I am muscular in-shape blonde 5'10", 165# and 32. Must be broad-minded, friendly, sincere and seeking long-term friendship. 71407

Lean For Lean
GWM, 41, 6', 165lbs, HIV+, Italian/German, short brown hair, goatee, bottom seeks lean Caucasian top to 50. Into meta-physic, bull play, country/western, golden showers, massage. 71408

Seeking Native Russian-Speaker
81 WAM American, 51, 178cm, 80k, fluent in Russian, affectionate, versatile, discrete, well-endowed, looking for native Russian-speaker (younger A+) for friendship, mutual pleasure, massage. 71409

GWM Nice Guy
31, 6.0 170lbs HIV- Honest, sincere, healthy, masculine, enjoy movies, dancing, theater, cuddling and real relationships. You same, call. No drugs. 71411

GWM Seeks Latino
Youthful 55yr old GWM ISO gay Latino man 18-45 who enjoys sensual deep throat action. Masc./rim, clean uncult A+. NO LTR possible. Movies and dinner out. 71414

Slim Or Muscle
I'm a lingerie designer for men only. From attractive, GWM, 6', 41, 170lbs, br/bl, healthy, HIV-seeks same. Let's jo each other at my place in S.F. Exp like clean, smooth, butt, and quick cummers. Horny? 71360

S.F. Officers
Seeking honest serious friends. You 18-35, HIV-, clean hygiene, swollen nipples, good teeth, round butt. GBM, 48, 5'10", 140#, 49, no fats no drugs. 71416

S.F. Firemen
Hard working gay firemen for serious friends. You HIV8-, clean hygiene, good teeth, round butt, submissive, big swollen nipples, 18-25 only. No fats. 71417

HIV BLK #170, 5'10"
In reasonably good physical condition, seeking 100% interaction. You small to med build, tall or short thin to lean body type. Bottom A+, no bears or bears types! 71419

GAM Seeks GWM 65 And Over
For long term relationship. Please call Alan, I am 48, average build. 71420

Mulatto Guy:
Good looking, intelligent, creative. Looking for financially secure and stable mate for friendship, a relationship or more. 71421

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Uncut Hung 9 Hairy Masc Musc
Versatile DAD, GWM, 50, balding, 5'9", 162. Butt slapping, deep throat, nipple work, eat armpit, verbal talk dirty; seek masc/musc fitman with great butt, legs, nice cock, light S&M, rough & tender, kiss & cuddle. Nude photo required, get mine. HIV- A+. In SF/Feb. Thanks. 71331

Horny Mature Seniors
WMM 43, 6'10lbs. I love giving sensual oral pleasure to musc. straight-acting seniors one-on-one or in groups. Bears, hairy, non-buffed A+. Not into gay scene, skm, pain, leather, vs, or drugs. 71357

Abusive Morally Corrupt Daddy
Must move to LA and need S&M, C&BT, TT, spanking, shaving, humiliation. Be young, smooth, slender and need to be owned, used, abused. Fleishy titles, small cock, 88s a plus. 71332

Long, Thick, Hot!
Hot, handsome, hung, top, 6'170", goatee, looking to fill your holes with a long, thick tool & big head. 71333

Start The New Year Right!
Italian GM, 44, 5'11", 200#, hairy, playful, topless sks hairy GM, 30-50 in SF for frequent safe sexual encounters. 71334

Just Shut Up And Ride
34, WM, 5'10" 195lb blond/blue body-builder wants masculine good looking men to pump me or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off- anytime. 71335

Deep Into A Blond Bottom
Seeking fuck buddy my age to pound this handsome blond 34yo. You & me: masculine, cleancut, HIVneg, into it. Looks unimportant. 71336

Fun Party-Boy
VGL, BM, 32, 6', 165lbs, bottom-vers. into sex, ws, sens. tit play, seeks hung topers. Leather Master or Construction type A+. No drama. 71353

Senior Cocksucker Seeks Same
GWM 63, 6', 175#, HIVneg ISO man any race, age, Wt proportional to hit A+. 71354

Palo Alto Asian Man HIV- 41
5'11", 190 ISO a husky hairy man over 30yo to violate my smooth buns prefer mid Peninsula, have car will travel. 71355

Strip Down And Show Daddy
A boy daddy, 56, ISO horny boy, 30-35, for good times. NS, ND, hairy, uncult A+. You need it bad. 71356

EB Seeking Uncut Hispanic Cock
To service. Oakland area by W/M 50's 150#, 5'11"- HIV-neg. 71358

Candywrapper On Muscle Men
Tight stretchy close on fine men, spandex, stretch shirts, thongs ect. I'm shy built with nice proportion, mid 20's, only muscle men need respond. 71359

Pants Down J/O
Attractive, GWM, 6', 41, 170lbs, br/bl, healthy, HIV-seeks same. Let's jo each other at my place in S.F. Exp like clean, smooth, butt, and quick cummers. Horny? 71360

Cum On My Face
East Bay White male, 35, looking for big, cut and shaved cock and balls for oral services. 71375

Rugged Guy
Masculine, clean-cut, athletic Asian, 52, 5'9", 155, smooth swimmer's body, seeks clean-shaven, lean or muscular smooth WM for hot, sensual body and oral work-outs. 71376

Naked Ecstasy
Soothing full body massage available for free for slim masculine boys from your early 20's to your early 40's by slim masculine WM 42. 71377

Looking For Irishman
Who is pleased #71800, a few weeks ago. You: looking for oral service in Castro area. Me: the answer to your wish. Please call- you'll be glad you did. 71378

5'11" Boyish Asian
Boyish Asian seeks smooth gym toned well endowed WM for safe fun. Also likes massage and hot tubing. Blondes a plus. 71379

Hot White Or Latino Bottoms 18-39
Wanted by 55yr old White top, 6'0" 160lbs drk br hair brn eyes big 9" cut cock HIV+ seeks hot White or Latino bottoms HIV+ who like to get fucked. 71380

Submissive Black Bottom
Seeks top dominant aggressive, verbal, raunchy, kinky, sleaze +, available & some weekends. 71381

Naked Riders Hop On This
Attractive Mediterranean 30yo, 5'10", 145lb, in-shape, dk haired & hairy, hot, uncult, 8e h/wt proportionate, clean & ready for a deep plow. 71382

J/O Buddy
GWM, 48, 6'3", 180, seeks trim mutual J/O partner. Non-hairy plus. 71431

Your Personal Cocksucker
Regular deep-throat service for 20-40 years old, well hung, discreet, friendly guy, any race. No bears please. I'm 30+ HIV+ GWM, nice looking. Any questions? 71383

Sex Soul Mate
Seeking taller, smoother males who enjoy lots of physical contact, kissing, massaging, sucking and cumming. I'm 49, gym, br/bl, 6'3", 170. 71384

Seeking Senior J/O Partner
Masculine mature attractive WM wants to watch you jo on a face letting it stay there while you jerk me off. 71385

Jackoff Buddy Str8 Or Gay
I love stroking cock. In a porno theater, I slowly open your fly, then get your cock excited...keep you on the edge of a cum. 71386

Gay Artists Wanted!
I am looking for gay artists to discuss their art and also to get together for fun or good times. Contact me. 71441

Seeks Bondage And Flogging
Lean, athletic, 45, friendly seeks bondage and flogging. Reciprocation possible. 71387

In Shape Professional GWM ISO
Trim GWM under 35 to receive intense front and rear oral action. LTR possible. 71388

34yo Sexy French Traveller
6', 160#, hairy, seeks in-shape, masculine, hot men, 20-40 to share safe, fun times. Any race. Ready to enjoy some unusual ways to practice sex. 71389

Attractive, Athletic, Smooth Asian
Male wants to receive firm, full-body, long, erotic oil massages on every part of my nude body. From experienced or inexperienced masseuse. Available day-times on weekends. No \$ involved. 71390

Boy 49 Loves To Mouth-Worship
Top buddy's balls, dick, & hole. Strong quiet tongue job or sweetly slimy throat fuck for fit, sexy, in-shape, in-charge man any age/race. 5'8 1/2", 152 uncult, buzzed/brown-gray, goatee, bl/glasses, work out. Let's connect. NS/nd pls. 71422

Cleancut GWM Top ISO Playmate
Handsome, funny, amiable fellow (35, 6', 175, nicely-equipped, HIV+) seeks trim, attractive, muscular, but presentable nasty boy for misadventures: carnal, social, cinematic, literary, quite possibly romantic, but mostly carnal. 71423

Hung Black Oakland Guy, 46,
Unwinds with a beer and a deep throat around his mecha manhood. No voicemail, beeper or work phone's. Moustache (but no other facial hair) a big plus. 71424

Seeking A Mature Man Of Color
Me: Irish/Italian, 37, HIV-, 5'7", 140, brown, blue, cute, boyish, clean shaven, witty, charming and intelligent. Sexually versatile, muscular, but presentable nasty boy for misadventures: carnal, social, cinematic, literary, quite possibly romantic, but mostly carnal. 71425

GWM Bear Seeks Black Men
36, 250#, 5'9", blond, bearded, seeking Black men to orally service. Apologies not important. Large/chubby men especially desired. Penisula. 71426

Seeking Latin Top
Masculine, well built, bottom looking for sex starved Latin top, 35-45 for on-going sessions in S.F. Oral, anal, nasty, let's do...!! 71427

Sex Crave Asian ISO Play Boys
Happy partnered chub look for hot sex. Week days, afternoon. Oakland area. Any race. 35-45, HIV-, your place, no string. Relax, discreet, poss long term, sex deal. 71428

Asian And Filipino Bottoms Yea
Let me tongue & cock fuck your hot Asian ass. 37yr GWM, Italian, neg. Great looks & body. I want to be your top! Call Now! 71429

Lean Muscular GEWM Submissive
Into rope bondage and TT. I'm 31, br hair, bl eyes. Be around my place younger, and clean cut. Tie me up! 71430

Well Endowed Black Men
Who need a sub White guy for regular servicing. Me: 5'8" 155 hairy state. Your pleasure will be my pleasure. 71432

FF Top
GMM need FF bottom into toys, w/s, rim, videos playmates. 71433

Masculine, Muscular, & Massage
GWM, attractive, 6', 170lbs, br/bl, heart 41, HIV-, seeks guy for quick interludes at my place in SF. You're slim, clean, HIV-, smooth, and maybe hung? Pts call. 71434

Sonoma County Top
42, 5'9", 170 hairy thin, positive seeking Mexican/Latino bottom 30-50, slim preferred. Must like Asplay! 71435

Seeking Men Of Color
Handsome BM, 31, wants to suck your dick. Other scenarios possible but unnecessary. If your lucky, I'll come back. HIV-men of color only. 71436

Robert Of Palo Alto Head Giver
To guys under 45 with average to large cock who recip... Ub in Redwood City to Sunnyvale. I'm 41, 190 husky bottom. 71437

Looking For Fun
Goodlooking, GWM, HIV+ (very healthy), 42yo, 187lbs, and 6ft, seeks other good-looking men for fun times. All nationalities welcome. Please no men over 40. 71438

Want To Meet Top Fist Pals
Attractive bottom guy ISO nasty minded top fister. My hole needs small to medium hands. I like dirty talk, all ages, types. Just really enjoy playing with a man's hole. 71439

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Name	Daytime Telephone
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South Bay J/O Addict Buddies
GWM, 32, thin, chronic masturbator, jacks naked for hours, days. Wants like-minded buddies for repeated, obsessive, cum-spurting marathon sessions. Under 35, trim. South Bay A+. ☎ 71440

Hung Guys Wanted!
I am looking for guys who are hung "9" or more for fun and good times. Call me and we'll get together. ☎ 71442

Italian Guys!
I am looking for Italian guys of all types for fun, relationship, friendship or sex; If hung A+. If not, it's ok. Call ☎ 71443

FETISHES

A Lay And A Spray
Fuck hole and urinal. Available for as- sertive mature man. Vallejo area a plus. ☎ 71337

Cigars
Cigaman looking to connect with other men into cigars. ☎ 71338

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 71391

Tickleplay
GWM, 36, 5'11", 175#, seeks ticklish guys for bondage/tickleplay. Prefer lean, 25-45 with some experience in this fetish, but open to all. ☎ 71339

Big Nipple Guy
WM mid 40s with big tits & nips for good clean tit worship fun. ISO African American, Latin, Asian A+. Big pecs/tits A+++. Huge nips A+++. ☎ 71361

Discreet Freak
Wet and natural, raunchy hole, scat, raunchy underwear exchanged, slim, egg hanging balls, cute, versatile, 30-45, all races. Me: BM, 40, handsome, 6'1", 175lbs. 9" cut, versatile, discreet freak. ☎ 71362

Energetic And Eager Guy
Talented mouth and tongue for front and rear service to in-shape men. Me: 37, 5'8", 125, got-it, slim and defined. You: While in-shape 25-50/yb. Pissers. ☎ 71363

Bondage Top
Experienced bondage top, GWM, good looking, 41, 5'8", 155, in-shape, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play. Safe, discreet, trustworthy. SF/East Bay. Bi ok. ☎ 71395

Looking For Serious Nipple Workout
45yr old GWM nipple pig, gmbm, salt & pepper, goatie, tits & piercing, seeking serious nipple pig buddy for kick ass tit play with growth in mind!... pumping, weights, clamps. Call! ☎ 71397

Drag Queens...
Me bi HM, -ISO drag queens for fun. Pluses: red-heads, cigar-smokers, clean & sober, 69, freak sessions, (18-35 must). ☎ 71392

Young Slave For Dog Training
Very cute 26yo. submissive boy from Eastern Europe wants to be fully trained as doggy by experienced demanding dog trainer under 36. Serious only. Full satisfaction guaranteed. ☎ 71393

Front & Rear Oral Service
Energetic & eager oral WM with hot mouth & tongue. Me: 37, 5'8", 130, hungry. You: 30-50, in shape, white pissers + + +. ☎ 71394

Over-The Knee Spanking Needed!
Stem lecture, old-fashioned corporal punishment w/hand, paddle, belt on the seat of my pants, underwear & bare butt (w/ pants & shorts pulled down) required to make this GWM, 40's behave. Authoritative discipline A+. Thank you sir! ☎ 71396

Safe But Painful SM/BD
GWM, 42, 5'10", 175lbs, br/b into play that involves some discomfort. ISO bottoms, but will negotiate w/talented tops. Ethnic, men of color welcomed. In-shape 20's-50's preferred. ☎ 71398

Spread-Eagle
Need to be tied spread-eagle to your bed, to be played with, sensually tortured for long slow milkings while I writhe sweat, flex, moan for your enjoyment, mutual top. ☎ 71444

Spread That Crotch
Masculine, red head with uncut cock and low hanging balls, likes to eat ass, suck cock, into s&m. ☎ 71445

Extreme Raunch Action
Picking up on winos, derelicts & homeless studs? Looking for other masculine men into extreme raunch action, open to all scenes. ☎ 71446

Can You Suck Yourself?!
I want to watch you deep throat your cock. Throw your legs over your head and suck your hard cock. Flexible big cock self seeking exhibitionists needed. ☎ 71447

Spanking And Affection
GWM, 49, 5'10", 170, bearded & hairy into hot sensual, give + take spanking, kissing, cuddling, j/o seeks GWM under

50 for fun + friendship. ☎ 71448

Pit Buddy
6', 195, 40, healthy, looking for buddy who likes to have his pits serviced as much as I enjoy servicing them. Mutual great, any age. Discreet, on-going or one time. ☎ 71449

COUPLES

Stiff-Cocked Man Wanted 4, 3ways
Younger man is super hung, dominant, uncut, likes it rough. Older man is submissive, can be whipped. Partner needed for 3 way. ☎ 71399

SKG GWM Bridge Playing Couple
GWM couple (48 & 44) seeking another couple for fun and social evenings of Bridge (Party/Chicago). ☎ 71400

Two Ready For Action
35, 39, slim, goatied, poz. Into sucking, getting fucked. Looking for medium to

skinny, facial hair. Alcohol, chem friendly, not required. Let's fuck like it's 1979. ☎ 71364

OTHERS

Bury My Face In Yours...
FTM seeks fat femme with huge attitude problem. 41, bearded, Mexican, velocity tongue. Becha can't wear me out (but please try) Women only please. ☎ 71340

Slave Offering
DBF seeks submissive playmates for my male slave. Serious only need apply, safe, play only N/S, N/D. Follow my directions. ☎ 71401

Pussy Videos
Invite me over to watch pussy videos with you. Pretend we're straight. Get so hot together. Get curious about what the other is doing. Start experiencing..... The younger the better. ☎ 71450

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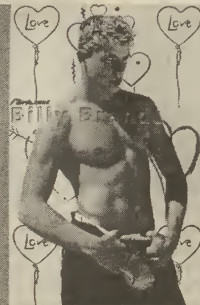
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Symphony

◀ page 35

tion with enthusiasm at times, but I haven't seen individual players display such a lack of discipline since long before the arrival of Michael Tilson Thomas. Some were still chatting as the conductor assumed the podium. Maybe Alasdair Neale inspires such a chummy ambience, but I suspect it is more the attitude of students toward a substitute.

Return of the Ninth

Last week showed an altogether more attentive crew, ready to give their acknowledged leader a fully drilled and sensitively projected performance. The return of MTT and the Mahler Ninth was a transcendent event, able to obliterate flu-driven coughing attacks and insensitive whisperers.

The recent concerts marked the 26th anniversary of Tilson Thomas's debut with the SFS. At 29, the daring conductor tackled the same massive, blistering pages of the Ninth Symphony—what he has called “perhaps the most important and emotionally satisfying farewell symphony in all of music.” I do not know how the Young Turk voyaged through the score then, but I can report that experience of life since has enabled the older musician to create an almost unbearable

ably poignant experience.

The sight of familiar faces in the orchestra heightened the sense of shared emotion. Sentimentalizing the 9th is not a good idea, but it is only human to have a visceral reaction to music of such power, pain and acceptance. There were many memorable moments of solo inspiration, but violist Geraldine Walther's sweet look of rapt intensity, while she played with an almost unbelievable tenderness, will stay with me for a long while.

The journey of Mahler's Ninth begins and ends in exquisite quiet, and the audience really seemed to be on its best behavior, for the most part. The flu epidemic had one woman strangling on her own phlegm in the crucial final moments, but we could forgive her (almost), since the realization was so overwhelming. I could even appreciate the expected but unanimous standing ovation at the conclusion.

For one of these tributes to mean a thing, I insist that there must be at least one life-changing aspect to the performance. MTT managed to elicit enough passion and motivation from his players, in this instance, not only to illuminate the complexities of a profound work by a genius composer, but to move us close to tears in the process. So okay, everybody—I was with you on this one. Happy Anniversary, Maestro. ▼

Book Report

◀ page 42

mother from hell.

“The Babka Sisters” is another monologue, but this speaker is entirely individual and could never be mistaken for the mother in “Family Is Family.” This story takes us back in lesbian history, to a time when the love dared not speak its name because there was no name for such feelings.

“A Religious Experience” is the erotically charged tale of a butch who flips herself. “Laddy Come Home” is a heartbreaking look at the dark side of lesbian parenting. Family figures prominently in many of Newman's stories. “Whatever Happened to Baby Fane” explores family, biological and emotional, and the terrible harm that “never” can do. “A Femme in the Hand” is a humorous and erotic tale of one butch's search for the femme of her dreams. “Girls Will Be Girls,” a novella, is an hysterically funny tale of a psychiatric three-way. If you are considering cheating on your lover, reading this saga may convince you not to stray, and that lesbian bed-death is not the worst thing in the world. *Girls Will Be Girls* is a garden of delights, wrenching, sexy, moving, and hilarious by turn. Lesléa Newman reads at A Different Light Bookstore on January 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Literary events

Also at ADL, Felice Newman

Arthur Tress

◀ page 36

respective of Tress' work in Washington, DC. This is the same museum that made international headlines just a few years ago when its curators decided to cancel a show spotlighting Robert Mapplethorpe.

Tress, who's handling the growing acclaim quite well, agrees to do a little self-analysis for us: “You know, I was always a little bit on the cut of a voyeur. Being a photographer, I'm always a little bit of an outsider. I thought I was always a kind of a bathhouse wallflower.”

discusses lesbian sex and her new book, *The Whole Lesbian Sex Book: A Passionate Guide for All of Us* (Cleis, \$21.95), on January 20 at 7:30 p.m. Felice will also read on January 22, 7:30 p.m. at Boadecia's Books (398 Colusa Ave., Kensington). Call 510-559-9184 for directions. If her reading is half as entertaining, informative, and hot as her book, you won't want to miss it.

If you just don't know what or how to think about green energy, electric power generated from renewable and safe sources like wind and air, a forum on the topic tonight at the Main Library (Thurs., Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. Koret Auditorium) may help to clarify.

Kids and their folks

The Main Library offers practical ways to narrow the divide between teenagers and their often bewildered parents. It's “Cool Communication,” a workshop that takes place January 22 at 2 p.m. in the Latino/Hispanic Community Room.

On January 26, Rose Offner will talk about her latest book, *Journal to the Soul for Teenagers*, and give a mini-workshop on journal-keeping at Books Inc. in the Marina, 2251 Chestnut St., 7:30 p.m.

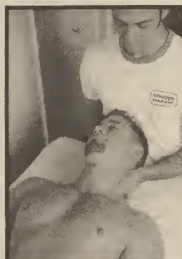
Katie Hern discusses *Reunion: A Year in Letters Between a Birth-mother and the Daughter She Couldn't Keep* at Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, on January 25, 7:30 p.m. Call (510) 845-7852 for info. ▼

Laughing, he continues, “Of course, being a wallflower might have done me good stead ultimately. But actually, I was in awe of all these people [that I shot]. You might say that some of my photographs which seem to critique the gay world and its excesses, especially in the '70s, are like the revenge of the nerd. But at the same time, I really wanted to be one of them and be accepted by them. And, of course, I wanted them to spend their discretionary money on my prints.”

And that's just what a lot of us seem to be doing at this very moment. ▼

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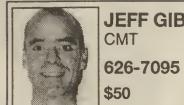
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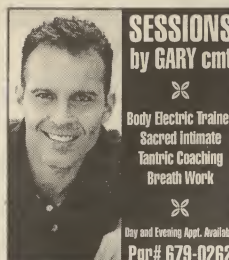
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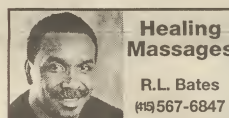
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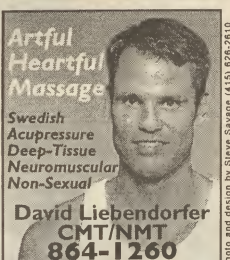
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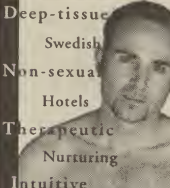


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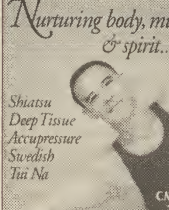
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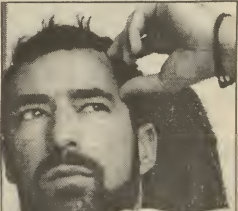
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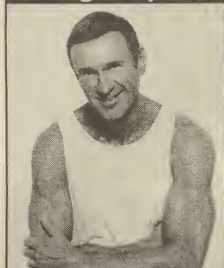
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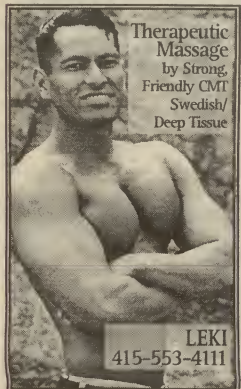
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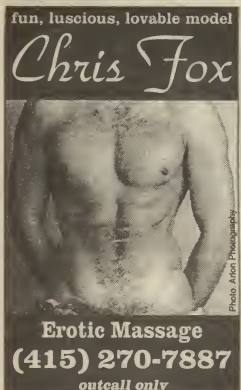
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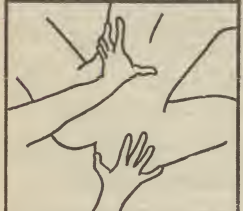


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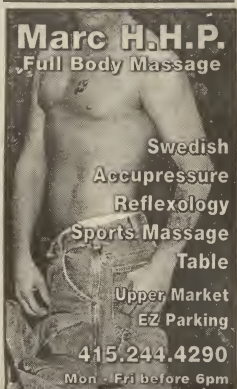
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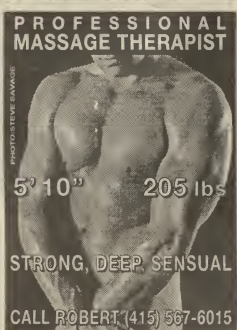
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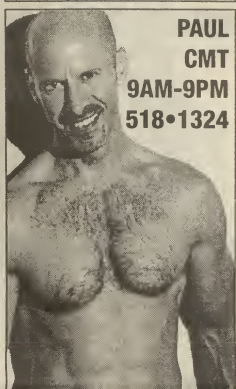
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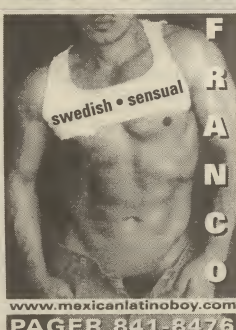
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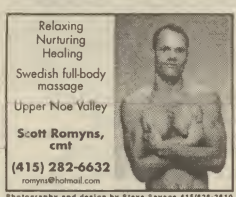
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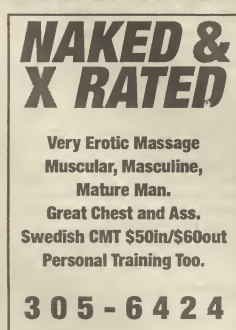
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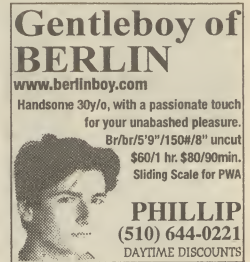
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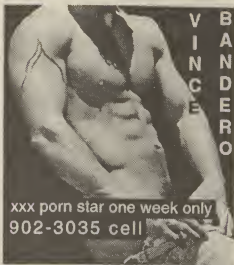


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Gd Lking Foot top 40yo, 6'1", 195#
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Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
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Very discrete and friendly clean
slim built with boyish looks and
well endowed also stays hard
first timers welcomed out only
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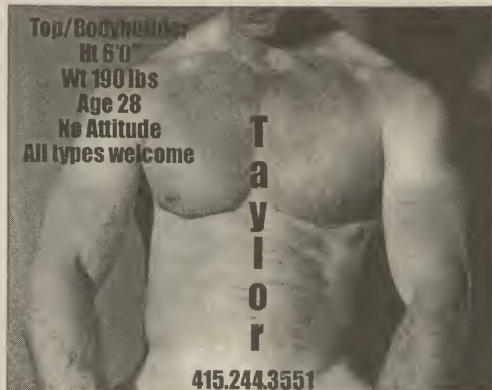
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5'11" 167lbs 8" uncut, total top,
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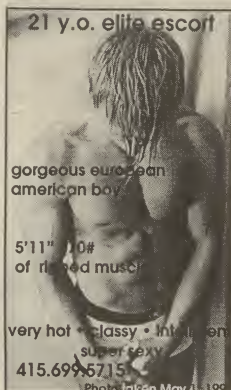
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48, 8 1/2" sling, toys, rim seat, uni-
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Good looking, lean and smooth.
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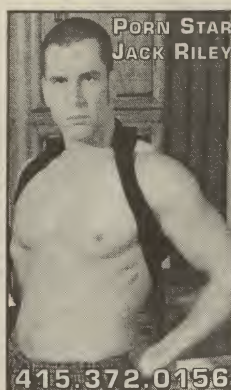
RUCK MAN-MAXT

CLEAN-CUT JOCK
28, 5'10", 160, crewcut, blue eyes
tight body, 6-pack abs, 9c and thick
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HOT SALSA
Sexy, slender Latin jock smooth,
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5'6" 120lb vgl bottom
Jake 415 519 7546 140/in 150/out

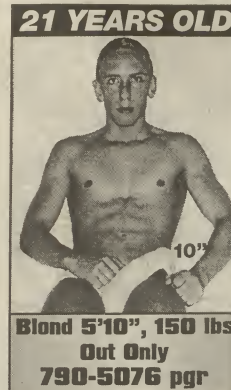
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Handsome muscular hung 8 1/2 Ital-
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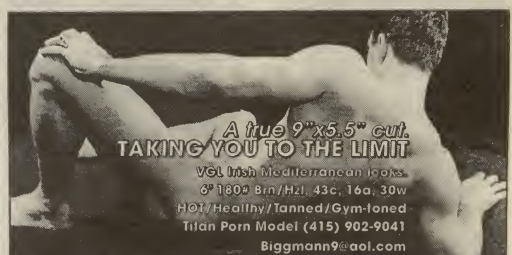
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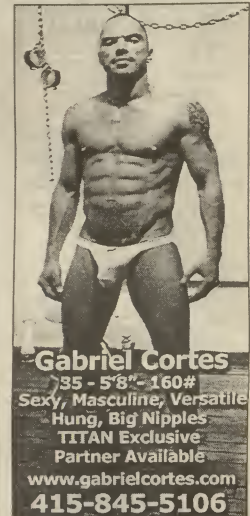
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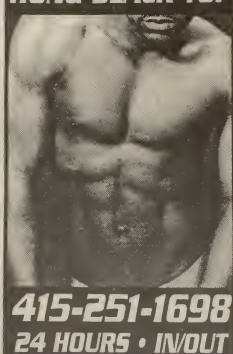
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GERALD



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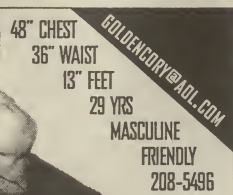
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HERE FOR A SHORT TIME
VERY HANDSOME,
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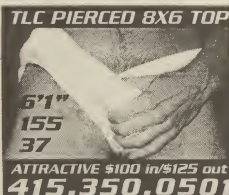
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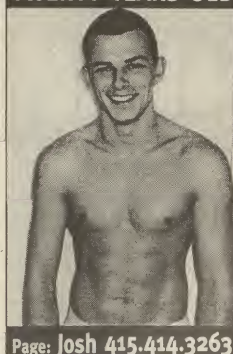
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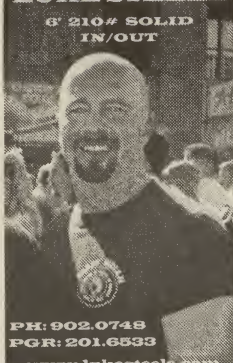
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LIVE THE MYTH!
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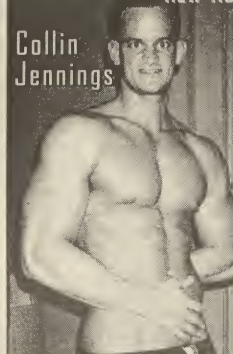
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VERY WELL ENDOWED
MASCULINE GUY! GREAT
LOOKS AND BODY! GOOD
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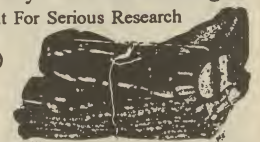
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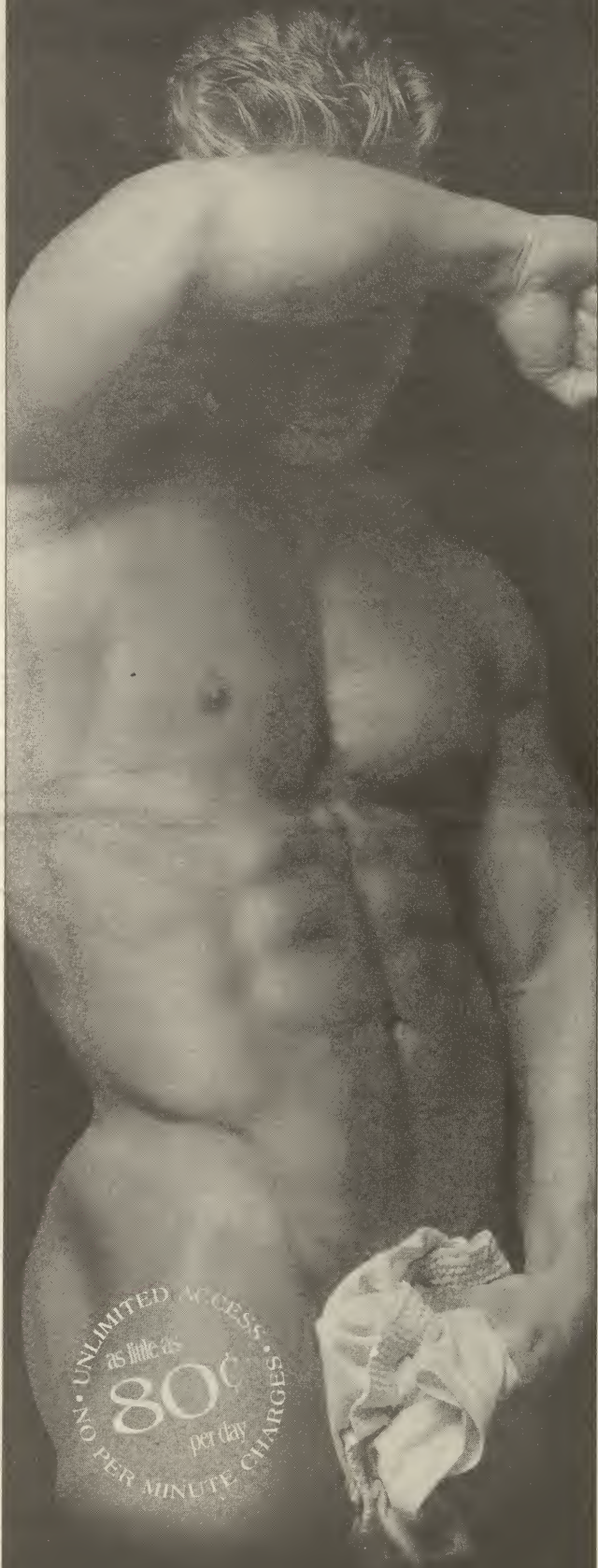
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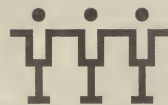
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